

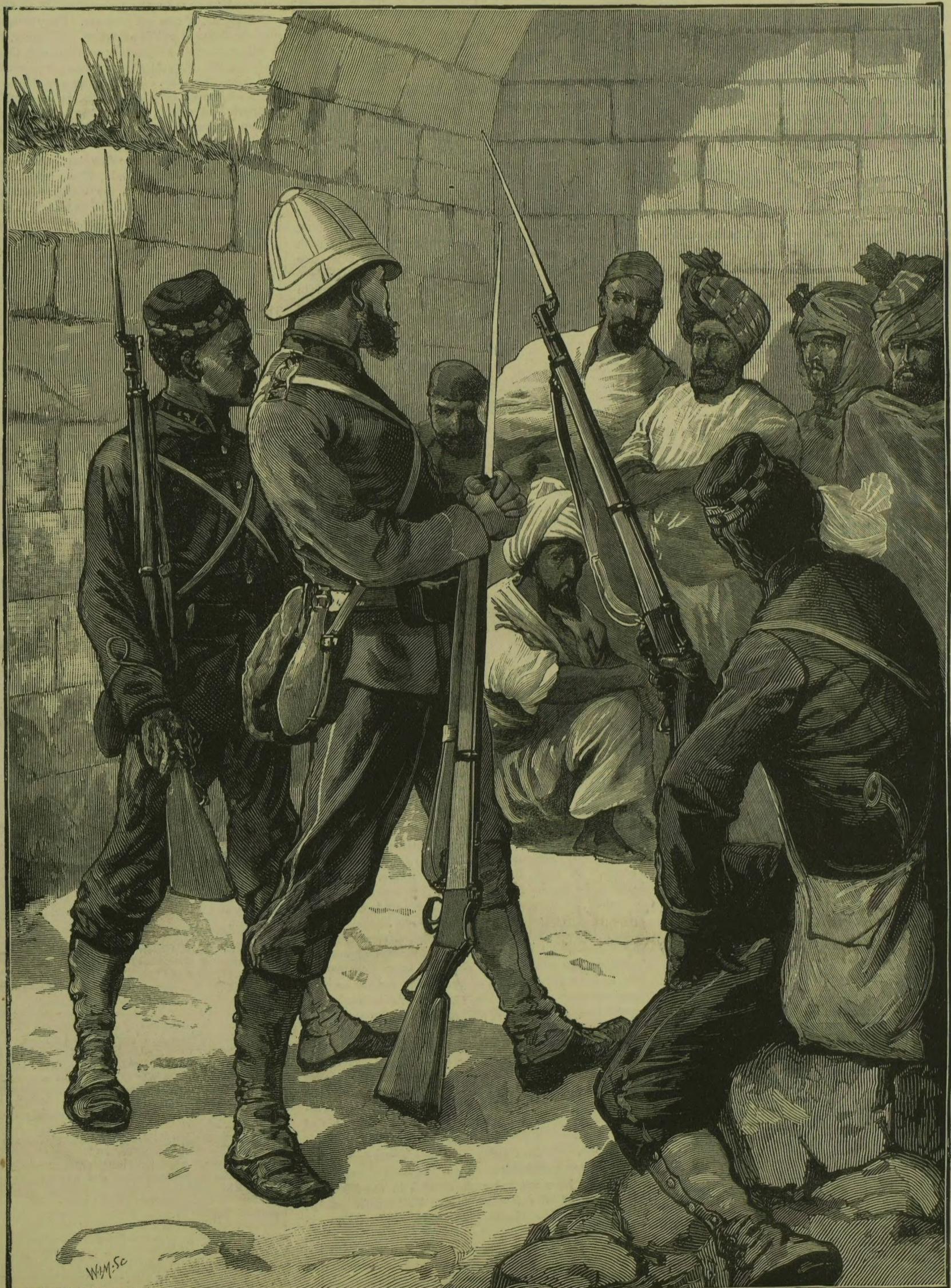
THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

REGISTERED AT THE GENERAL POST-OFFICE FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.

No. 2154.—VOL. LXXVII.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1880.

WITH SIXPENCE.
TWO SUPPLEMENTS }
By Post, 6d



BIRTHS.

On the 3rd inst., at Castle Forbes, the Countess of Granard, of a son.
On the 2nd inst., at Palazzo Oreno, Mentone, the Countess Agnes de Galleani, of a son.

On the 3rd inst., at Lawrence Weston, Newbury, the Lady Grace Bridges, of a daughter.

On the 6th inst., at 6, Heathfield-garden, Hampstead-heath, N.W., the wife of Henry Edward Millar, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 2nd inst., the Baron von Waldenfels, Munich, Bavaria, to Harriet Eleanor Jessy, youngest daughter of the late General Sir Frederick Ashworth, and of the Marchioness of Donegall.

On the 2nd inst., at Fullerton Manse, Irvine, by the father of the bride, Archibald Galbraith Brown, of Pernambuco, Brazil, to Ellen Grieve, younger daughter of the Rev. David Wilson, of Fullarton Free Church.

DEATHS.

On the 1st inst., at Old Bank House, Grantham, Benjamin Cort Ogden, aged 73.

On the 3rd inst., at Oakfield, Reigate, in her 86th year, Mary Watson, sister of Sir Thomas Watson, Bart., M.D.

* * * The charge for the insertion of Births, Marriages, or Deaths is Five Shillings for each announcement.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK ENDING SEPT. 18.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 12.

Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity. St. Paul's Cathedral, 10.30 a.m., Rev. W. Russell, Minor Canon; 3.15 p.m., Rev. Canon Stubbs; 7 p.m., Rev. A. T. Lloyd, Vicar of Aylesbury. Whitehall, closed for this month. Savoy, 11.30 a.m., Rev. Henry White, the Chaplain; 7 p.m., Rev. Henry Cary Shuttleworth, Minor Canon of St. Paul's.

MONDAY, SEPT. 13.

Opening of the Yorkshire Fine Arts Society's Exhibition at Leeds. Opening of the Trade Union Congress at Dublin.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 14.

Holy Cross Day. Doncaster September Meeting. Horticultural Society, 11 a.m. Worthing Athletic Sports.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 15.

Ember Day. Doncaster Races: the St. Leger. Widnes Agricultural Show, Farnworth. Bucks Agricultural Association Show, Winslow. Barnard Castle Agricultural Show.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 16.

Ember day. Cockermouth Agricultural Show.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 17.

Ember day. Accession of Oscar II., King of Sweden, 1872.

THE WEATHER.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE KEEV OBSERVATORY OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY.

Lat. 51° 28' 6" N.; Long. 0° 18' 47" W. Height above Sea, 34 feet.

DAY.	DAILY MEANS OF				THERMOM.	WIND.	Movement in 24 hours, read at 10 A.M. next morning.	Rain in 24 hours, read at 10 A.M. next morning.
	Barometer Corrected.	Temperature of Air.	Dew Point.	Relative Humidity.	Absent of Cloud.			
Aug. 29	29° 97.5	63° 3	54° 4	74	7	71° 8	57° 9	N.E. ENE.
30	29° 93.0	62° 6	53° 3	73	9	68° 7	57° 4	N.W. NE. ENE.
31	30° 03.7	63° 4	56° 0	78	2	75° 6	54° 9	E.N. N. W.
1	30° 24.7	61° 1	56° 7	'86	6	71° 7	51° 5	W. SW.
2	30° 29.8	66° 3	58° 3	77	4	78° 7	59° 0	SW.
3	30° 18.0	67° 7	55° 9	'68	0	80° 9	56° 2	SW. S.
4	29° 96.9	71° 4	59° 4	'67	1	84° 7	57° 9	SSW. SSE.

* Dew.

The following are the readings of the meteorological instruments for the above days, in order, at ten o'clock a.m.:—

Barometer (in inches) corrected .. 30° 03.3 29° 92.0 30° 02.0 30° 23.0 30° 32.6 30° 22.5 29° 98.8
Temperature of Air .. 63° 5° 66° 6° 64° 8° 61° 1° 67° 7° 71° 7° 76° 2°
Temperature of Evaporation .. 58° 7° 60° 8° 60° 9° 60° 9° 62° 9° 65° 1° 68° 1°

Direction of Wind .. NNE. ENE. N. WSW. WSW. SW. SSE.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE FOR THE WEEK ENDING SEPT. 18.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
M 40 h m 7 12	M h m 7 50	M h m 8 33	M h m 9 20	M h m 10 10	M h m 10 33	M h m 11 30
h m 40 7 12	h m 50 8 33	h m 9 20	h m 10 10	h m 10 33	h m 11 30	h m 12 00

BRIGHTON EVERY SUNDAY.—A Cheap First Class Train from Victoria 10.45 a.m., calling at Clapham Junction and Croydon; from London Bridge 10.35 a.m., calling at Croydon. Day Return Tickets, 10s.

BRIGHTON.—PULLMAN DRAWING-ROOM CAR TRAINS leave Victoria for Brighton every Weekday at 10.0 a.m. and 4.30 p.m., and from Brighton at 9.45 a.m. and 5.45 p.m.; and on Sundays from Victoria 10.45 a.m., and from Brighton 8.30 p.m.

THE GRAND AQUARIUM AT BRIGHTON.—EVERY SATURDAY. Cheap Fast Trains from Victoria at 10.55 and 11.30 a.m., and London Bridge at 9.30 a.m. and 12.00 noon. Day Return Fare—First Class, Half-a-Guinea, including Admission to the Aquarium and the Royal Pavilion.

PARIS.—SHORTEST, CHEAPEST ROUTE.—Via NEWHAVEN, DIEPPE, and ROUEN.

DAY SERVICE—Every Weekday Morning.

NIGHT SERVICE—Leaving Victoria 7.50 p.m., and London Bridge 8.00 p.m. every Wednesday.

FARES.—London to Paris and Back First Class. Second Class.

Available for Return within One Month £2 15 0 .. £1 19 0

Third-Class Return Tickets (by the Night Service), 30s.

A Through Conductor will accompany the Passengers by the Special Day Service throughout to Paris, and vice versa.

Powerful Paddle-Steiners with excellent cabins, &c.

Trains run alongside Steamers at Newhaven and Dieppe.

HAVRE.—Passengers booked through by this route every weekday from Victoria and London Bridge as above.

HONFLEUR, TROUVILLE, CAEN, &c.—Passengers booked through from Victoria and London Bridge, via Littlehampton, every Monday and Wednesday.

SOUTH OF FRANCE, ITALY, SWITZERLAND, &c.—Passengers are now booked through from London to Italy, Switzerland, and the South of France, by this route.

TICKETS and every information at the Brighton Company's West-End General Office, 28, Regent-circus, Piccadilly; and at the Victoria and London Bridge Stations. J. P. KNIGHT, General Manager.

GREAT EASTERN RAILWAY.—SEASIDE. TWO MONTHS, FORTNIGHTLY, and CHEAP SATURDAY to MONDAY. RETURN TICKETS are now issued to YARMOUTH, Lowestoft, Cromer, Southwold, Aldeburgh, Felixstowe, Harwich, Dovercourt, Walton-on-the-Naze, and Hunstanton. For full details see Hand-bills and Time-books.

London, September, 1880. WILLIAM BIRT, Acting General Manager.

LYCEUM.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Irving. SATURDAY NEXT, SEPT. 18, FIRST NIGHT of the PRESENT SEASON, when will be presented the Legendary Drama of THE CORSICAN BROTHERS—Louis Fabien die Franchi, Mr. Irving.—LYCEUM.

THEATRE ROYAL, COVENT-GARDEN, PROMENADE CONCERTS, under the direction of Messrs. A. and S. GATTI. Every evening. Doors open 7.30, commence at 8.0. Conductor, Mr. Frederick H. Cowen, assisted by Mr. A. Burnett. Orchestra of One Hundred performers. Band of the Coldstream Guards. Private Boxes, 18s. 6d. to £4 4s.; Dress Circle, 2s. 6d.; Stalls, 2s.; Promenade, 1s. Box-Office open Ten to Five Daily.

LEEDS MUSICAL FESTIVAL, OCT. 13, 14, 15, and 16, 1880.—Conductor, Mr. ARTHUR SULLIVAN. DETAILED PROGRAMMES now to be had, personally or by letter, on application to Festival Offices, Great George-street, Leeds.

FRED. R. SPARK, Hon. Sec.

DORÉ'S GREAT WORKS.—"ECCE HOMO" ("Full of divine dignity."—The Times) and "THE ASCENSION," "CHRIST LEAVING THE PRÆTORIUM," "CHRIST ENTERING JERUSALEM," with all his other Great Pictures.—DORE GALLERY, 33, New Bond-street. Daily, 10 to 6. 1s.

S. T. JAMES'S HALL, PICCADILLY. EVERY NIGHT AT EIGHT; MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, and SATURDAYS, at Three and Eight, ALL THE YEAR ROUND.

MOORE and BURGESS MINSTRELS, the oldest established and most successful Entertainment in the world, and THE ACKNOWLEDGED SUPREME HEAD of ALL CONTEMPORARY MINSTREL COMPANIES on either side of the Atlantic, comprising, "as it has done for more than fifteen years past," FORTY ARTISTES OF KNOWN EMINENCE.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON: SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1880.

The first Session of the tenth Parliament of her Majesty's reign was brought to a close on Tuesday last. A review of its proceedings will be found to present a wide difference between what was commonly expected of it and what it actually accomplished. The field of legislation it traversed was hardly contemplated by the Constituent Bodies which, at the General Election in Spring, returned their respective members to the House of Commons. No one, we venture to say, even of the largest political experience or the clearest and most penetrating foresight, in sketching a programme of the Session, would have drawn up an outline anything resembling the general picture which, during between three and four months, senatorial industry and ingenuity have succeeded in producing. It was generally acknowledged that the legislation of the Session would be of a preliminary character merely, and it was not unreasonably taken for granted that the Liberal majority, vastly outnumbering all its opponents of all parties put together, would summarily dispose of such questions as Mr. Gladstone's Cabinet might, after due consideration, select for treatment this year. The Budget had been voted previously to the Prorogation of the late Parliament. The Estimates had been submitted to the House and, in part, adopted. Certain measures relating to Legal Reform and to the Water Supply of the Metropolis had been introduced. A measure for the Relief of Irish Distress had been passed, and the course seemed clear for the legislative solution of one or more of those secondary problems which for the last six years have pressed upon the notice of the Liberal Party.

But, in point of fact, the new Parliament had scarcely met before events quite unforeseen marked out a wholly unanticipated line of legislative effort. Mr. Bradlaugh's claim to take his Seat in the Commons, upon affirmation, in lieu of the oath of allegiance, raised a dispute which altogether occupied some five sittings, and which provoked unusually stormy debates before it was settled. Then came a second Irish Relief Bill, brought in by Mr. Forster, the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland—a measure designed to provide additional funds, out of the Church Surplus, for outdoor relief and improvement works. The contest which this ameliorative and somewhat indulgent Measure provoked gave birth to another bill in relation to Ireland—namely, the Compensation for Disturbance Bill. This remarkable attempt to restrain the power of Landlordism to evict, in case of nonpayment of rent, limited as it was, in passing through Committee, by precautionary restrictions, and applicable only to certain scheduled districts in which severe distress was known to be prevalent, occasioned a flutter of alarm among proprietors of the soil, while it failed to conciliate a majority of Home Rulers. Everybody knows that after having been pushed through the Commons, with varying majorities, it was ultimately rejected by the Lords. But that Bill and the Employers' Liability Bill, introduced with a view to secure workmen against the negligence of masters, by modifying the legal doctrine of "common employment," consumed, we may say, the heart of the Session. A good Burials Bill, mutilated, in the first instance, by the Lords, but subsequently restored and improved by the Commons, has been placed upon the Statute Book. The Postmaster-General's Savings Banks Bill and Money Orders Bill, both of them popular, sound, and useful measures, became Law without serious opposition. The Grain Cargoes Bill, the Expiring Laws Continuance Bill, including the renewal of the Ballot Act for another year, and three Census Bills, were also got through their several stages with tolerable facility. The Ground Game Bill, entitled, in the first instance, the Hares and Rabbits Bill, was not so fortunate. It was considerably modified in Committee by its author, the Home Secretary; it was reduced almost to a nullity in the House of Lords; but afterwards retrieved from failure by the persistence of the Commons. Taken altogether, these legislative achievements, falling short though some of them have done of public expectation, reflect credit, not only on the industry, but on the courage, perseverance, and self-denial of the new House of Commons.

But we have not yet even alluded to the Financial legislation of the Session. Mr. Gladstone's genius, even before his illness, achieved a revolution in that department of statesmanship. In the face of an inherited deficit, he proposed a reduction of the Wine Duties, with a view to the renewal and improvement of the Commercial Treaty with France—a project which has necessarily been deferred, for the present, on account of the exigencies of French politics. But he has not only traced out a bold scheme of Taxational Reform, as between France and England, but has got rid of the Malt Tax by transmuting it into a Beer Duty, and, with the aid of an additional penny to the rate of this year's Income Tax, has converted a deficit into a surplus, and has paved the way to a progressively increasing Financial Return. The magic of the Chancellor of the Exchequer's wand has done wonders. Viewed in conjunction with the Ground Game Act, it has given high satisfaction to the agricultural class, while it has been quietly, if not approvingly, acquiesced in by the general public.

Of course, there have been discussions, from time to time, of the Foreign Policy of her Majesty's Government. Turkey, Afghanistan, and South Africa have furnished, each in its turn, incidents calling for debate. These topics, however, have not given predominance to what is going on abroad, either in the proceedings of Parliament or in the thoughts of men out of doors. They have not, of late, unduly absorbed public attention. Happily, things have tended towards a satisfactory solution, and, there is reason to hope, will ultimately mature into permanently desirable and peaceful results. The Premier was able to resume his responsible post, after his sea trip, in renewed health and strength and spirits, a day or two before the close of the Session, and was welcomed back by all parties to the House of Commons on Saturday last.

Brighter days seem to be dawning. A splendid harvest has been secured in Ireland. Here, in Great Britain, as well as in the Sister Isle, the weather has now pretty nearly done its part towards the gathering in of the fruits of the earth. The burden of our anxieties is lighter than it has been for some time past. Our legislators will, we trust, enjoy the holidays at length vouchsafed to them with "a light heart." Even Members of the Administration, including Cabinet Ministers, may take a spell of rest without gloomy forebodings. The stormy times through which they have passed will season them for future labours. Both Houses of the Imperial Legislature have learned some lessons which will, doubtless, be serviceable to them in regard to their future relations one to the other—lessons which will not be lost upon the reflective. When they are again summoned by their Sovereign to assist the Crown with their joint counsels they will know more accurately than they have done, of late, the measure of each other's moral, as well as constitutional, power, and will sacrifice to impatience or fits of irritation none of that influence which each possesses, not for its own sake, but for the benefit of the nation.

MR. GLADSTONE'S CRUISE.

The Grantully Castle, with Mr. Gladstone on board, arrived in the Firth of Forth on Thursday week, and delegations from the Leith and Edinburgh Town Councils and the Leith and Edinburgh Liberal Associations waited upon him. In reply to addresses, Mr. Gladstone referred to the great interest taken in his welfare by all political parties during his illness, and went on to say that he regretted having been unable to assist his colleagues of late, but he knew they were worthy of the confidence of the party to which they belonged and of the country generally. He could assure his hearers that the present Government would fulfil what they had promised to do at the general election. The right hon. gentleman and Mrs. Gladstone landed, and drove through the streets of Leith and Edinburgh, receiving everywhere enthusiastic welcomes.

On the following evening the Grantully Castle arrived off Yarmouth. The pilot's tug, which was signalled for, brought off a large number of visitors representative of the Liberal party of the town. They presented an address to Mr. Gladstone, who expressed regret that the necessity of his arriving in London early on the following day prevented his landing.

Mr. Gladstone concluded his coasting trip by landing at Gravesend last Saturday morning. Before leaving the vessel the right hon. gentleman spoke a few words of thanks to the captain, officers, and crew, and expressed his obligation to Mr. Donald Currie. On landing he was welcomed on shore by Mr. Elkin, the chairman of the Liberal Association. He then left for Charing-cross, where he arrived about half-past ten, being warmly cheered by those who were present. As the Premier drove to Downing-street he was generally recognised and saluted. After walking in St. James's Park with Earl Spencer, he attended a Cabinet Council; and subsequently he walked to the House, followed by a large number of persons.

Mr. H. B. Loch, Governor of the Isle of Man, has been made Knight Commander of the Order of the Bath.

Mr. F. N. Broome, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary of Mauritius, has been appointed Lieutenant-Governor of that colony.

Mr. Roger Tuckfield Goldsworthy, C.M.G., late Colonial Secretary of Western Australia, has been appointed Administrator and Colonial Secretary of the Island of St. Lucia.

Mr. William Lindsay, of the India Office, has been appointed private secretary to Viscount Enfield, the recently appointed Under-Secretary of State for India.

It is notified by the War Office that, as a special arrangement, candidates will be admitted to the examinations in December next for admission to the Royal Military College or Royal Military Academy who are within the required limits of age on Dec. 1, 1880, or Jan. 1, 1881.

ECHOES OF THE WEEK.

I read in the *Citizen* that, owing to "the unconcerned way" in which the erection was allowed of the monument or memorial or votive temple or expiatory tumulus, or whatever it is, which is partially to take the place of old Temple Bar on the boundary-line between the cities of London and Westminster, the cost of the structure will be at least ten thousand pounds. That, to my mind, is not a matter of any very great moment. An expenditure of twenty or even thirty thousand pounds on an architectural embellishment would not hurt the City of London, which, in the majority of instances, makes an admirable use of the vast financial resources at its command. The question to be determined by the citizens, not only of London, but of Westminster—I mean the metropolis at large—is whether the commemorative tribute to that vile old nuisance Temple Bar (I am glad to remember long years of persistent endeavour, by means of my pen, to force a reluctant Common Council to pull the ruinous old abomination down) is likely to be an architectural embellishment, or an architectural eyesore.

As to its being an obstruction, judgments may differ. Some people are of opinion that the vehicular traffic may be eased and not congested by its being slowly filtered through two narrow "up" and "down" channels, on the principle of the "in" and "out" system of the railway termini, instead of being allowed to flounder promiscuously about one not very broad thoroughfare. And, looking at the number of old ladies who may have come from Westminster by the north side of the Strand, and have to fumble in their reticules for their cheque-books before crossing the road to Child's bank, and the number of potentially short-sighted barristers who would like to take a final peep at their briefs midway between the Temple and the New Law Courts, the narrow strip of pavement or "refuge" which is to encircle the memorial or monument to the manes of Temple Bar may prove a convenience rather than an encumbrance.

Still, three questions may be asked. Has the design for the votive temple or the expiatory tumulus been submitted to Mr. Street, the architect of the New Palace of Justice, universally admitted, as that edifice is, to be one of the most superb examples of secular Gothic in the world? and does that eminent esthetic authority approve of the structure which the City Lands Committee, with the concurrence of the First Commissioner of Works (not the Metropolitan Board of Works, *bien entendu*), are setting up on the site of Temple Bar? next, does the design meet with the approval of Messrs. Child's, who have adorned the south side of Fleet-street with a stately Italian Palace for their new banking-house? and finally, one would like to inquire whether the right and proper thing to have done would not have been to have set up a wooden model of the proposed monument or memorial (as was done in the case of the equestrian statue of the Duke of Wellington on the summit of Decimus Burton's arch at Hyde Park Corner), so that the citizens of London in general might have been enabled to pronounce an opinion as to the beauty or otherwise of a structure which concerns, not only the City proper, but the entire capital of the British Empire?

Mem.: The Civic Fathers seem to have been in periodical trouble about their gates and barriers. I read in Mr. Pepys's "Diary," under date of Feb. 9, 1659-60:—"I called at Mr. Harper's, who told me how Monk had this day clapt up many of the Common Council, and that the Parliament had voted he should pull down their gates and portcullises, their posts and their chains, which he do intend to do, and to lie in the City all night." Temple Bar was then only a wooden structure. It would have given General Monk some trouble to pull down Sir Christopher Wren's bar.

The way in which we manage art-matters in England is amusingly illustrated by the circumstance that the body to whom the Lord Mayor, as chairman of the Rowland Hill Memorial Committee, has had to apply for permission to erect a statue of the great Postal Reformer at the south-east corner of the Royal Exchange, is the City Commission of Sewers. The Streets Committee have viewed the site, and recommend that, "subject to the approval of the plans and models of the statue," by the Commissioners of Sewers, the required sanction should be granted. *A la bonne heure!* But surely it is one thing to be a judge of sewers and another to be a judge of statues.

I learn from the *Athenaeum* that a work is in preparation wherein it will exhaustively be proved that the name of the garrulous Clerk of the Acts and Secretary to the Admiralty mentioned above was pronounced neither as "Peps" nor "Pips," nor "Peeps." Does it matter? It is of more concernment, I take it, that there should be an illustrated edition of Pepys. Is there one? What an *édition de luxe* it would make, with drawings made by such artists as Sir John Gilbert, Mr. Orchardson, Mr. Pettie, Mr. F. Barnard, Mr. Gow, Mr. Du Maurier, and Mr. Linley Sambourne. The last-named pictorial humourist and realist would shine to admiration in the illustrations of Pepys's trip to Holland, with Sir Edward Montagu, to fetch King Charles the Second home. There are many dockyard scenes, too, scattered up and down the Diary which would furnish tempting themes for Mr. Sambourne's inimitably technical pencil.

An "Illustrated Pepys" is, unfortunately, only a work *in posse*. Perhaps some spirited bibliophile will come over from Chicago or San Francisco (which cities are both rapidly becoming American art-centres) and spend a few thousands in getting up such a work, "regardless of expense." It would pay. So would an Illustrated "Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire" (look at the ground and the centuries which it covers) omitting Gibbon's objectionable chapters. But the *édition de luxe* that I most long for is a complete Horace, in Latin, English, and French, profusely illustrated by Sir Frederick Leighton, Mr. Millais, Mr. Alma-Tadema,

Mr. E. J. Poynter, and Mr. E. Burne Jones. What a book! It would beat the Vatican Virgil to "S. P."—small potatoes, as the Hon. Bardwell Slote would say.

Meanwhile Messrs. Dalziel Brothers promise a most luxurious art-volume on which during many years their engravers have been engaged, and which, early next November, will become a thing *in esse*. Sir Frederick Leighton, P.R.A., Mr. E. J. Poynter, R.A., and Mr. E. Burne Jones, Mr. Holman Hunt as aforesaid, Mr. Ford Madox Brown, Mr. Frederick Sandys, Mr. G. H. Watts, R.A., Mr. Armitage, R.A., and other distinguished artists too numerous to enumerate (I find among them the name of the lamented A. B. Houghton), have co-operated in making the drawings for Dalziel's "Bible Gallery," which is to comprise seventy-nine illustrations from the Old Testament. Only one thousand copies of the work (together with a hundred mounted on hand-made paper) are to be printed.

Names! names! still names! Obviously, I am not responsible for the statement that the admirable Irish comedian Tyrone Power was a Welshman out of Glamorganshire. I always thought that he was an Irishman. I have the keenest remembrance of his rich brogue now, albeit it was in 1840, at my mother's benefit at the Haymarket Theatre that I saw him as Dr. O'Toole, in the "Irish Tutor." I asked for information on the subject; and an esteemed correspondent referred me to the volume of the *Metropolitan Magazine* which I quoted the week before last. And now, lo! "A. P." writes from Finglas, County Dublin, to tell me that he is in a position to state that the admirable actor's real and proper name was William Grattan Tyrone Power; that he was born in County Waterford; that his father was a Captain in the army, who retired, and died in Canada; and that his wife was the eldest daughter of an English gentleman, of Newport, Isle of Wight. But how did that seemingly baseless myth get into the *Metropolitan Magazine* for 1836?

Mem.: I note the title of "The Herald's College as a Source of Revenue" as an article in the September number of one of the magazines. If all persons having or using arms paid their proper fees at Heralds' College, as well as the Crown duty on armorial bearings (which in nine cases out of ten is evaded), how rich Garter, Norroy, Clarencieux, and all their merry men in tabards would be, to be sure! In the Middle Ages heralds' fees were very high. At the coronation of Richard II. the Kings of Arms received a hundred pounds, and as many marks at the coronation of Queen Anne of Bohemia. On Royal birthdays and other festive occasions they claimed huge largesse. In fact, the heralds must have made, altogether, a very good thing of it; since, in the reign of Henry V., William Burgess, Garter, was able to entertain the Emperor Sigismund, in sumptuous state, at his mansion at Kentish Town.

I was asked (you may remember) not long ago to suggest a list of books for "general reading" for the use of a country reading-room, and through a kind of *mauvaise honte* I shrank from acceding to the request. You will understand my reluctance. I read literally everything that I can get hold of and that I can find a little time to delve into; and the consequence is that my own library is simply a rag-shop and a marine-store dealer's, plus a *brièvre-brac* shop. Still (now that I have turned the matter over in my mind) it might not do any harm if I mentioned a few volumes which I keep on my shelves, close at hand, when I have any time for "general" reading. I will not name such obvious desiderata as Shakespeare, Milton, the Waverley Novels, Dickens, Thackeray, George Eliot, Macaulay, Gibbon, Carlyle, Froude, Tennyson, Browning, and Mrs. Hemans. But what do you say to Milton's prose (as well as his poetic works)? Cassell's "Old and New London," Foxe's Martyrs, Thiers's French Revolution, and the same author's History of the Consulate and the Empire, Cook's Voyages, Washington Irving's works (every line of them), Bancroft's History of the United States, Napier's Peninsular War, the works of Jeremy Taylor (also every line of him), Addison's Spectator, the Arabian Nights' Entertainments, Goldsmith, Fuller's Worthies of England, Johnson (neither Dryden nor Swift in their entirety for "general" reading), the sermons of Barrow, South, and Stillingfleet, Agnes Strickland's Queens of England, Mrs. Delany's Letters and Autobiography (if these precious volumes can be procured), Southey's Lives of Nelson and Wesley, the British Essayists (the fifty or sixty volumes can be picked up very cheap), and more or less complete sets of Blackwood, Fraser, the Old Monthly, the Gentleman's, and the European Magazine, the Quarterly, the Edinburgh, and the Westminster Reviews? And don't forget the "Ingoldsby Legends," and the complete works of Thomas Hood.

I read in a leading article in a daily contemporary that Edmond About once remarked that Africa began at the Pyrenees. But I also read in the preface to a certain "Handbook for Travellers in Spain" (John Murray, Albemarle-street), by Richard Ford, F.S.A., the third edition of which was published before M. Edmond About's *début* in letters in "La Grèce Contemporaine," these words: "This singular people is scarcely yet European; this *Berberia Cristiana* is at least a neutral ground between the hat and the turban; and many still contend that Africa begins at the Pyrenees." Ford, it will be observed, does not claim the expression as an original one. It may be perchance in the "Espagne" of Théophile Gautier, which I have not seen for many years, and which Mr. Thackeray used to say was the "sultriest" book he had ever read. Many of Théophile's word-pictures are indeed so suggestive of torrid tawny Spain that they make you pant and long for iced soda, and something. Well; say limejuice.

Or is the Africo-Pyrenean expression the property of Alexander Dumas, who wrote a most entertaining and untrustworthy book about Spain. *Quien sabe?* Who was it that called Africa itself "a huge yellow pancake burnt at the edges?" Who first called a pulpit a "parson cooler," and

"business" "other people's money?" I am beginning to think that there are no original sayings at all in the world. Take the expression so dear to modern newspaper correspondents, "Conspicuous by their absence." Its equivalent is to be found in Tacitus, who, referring to the non-appearance of the images of Brutus and Cassius, at the funeral of Junia, writes "*Eo ipso præfulgebant quod non visebantur.*"

In "another place" (the "Playhouses" column) last week I mentioned an excellent drama called "The Templar," produced at the Princess's Theatre, under the management of the late Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kean, about thirty years ago, I should have said that the author of "The Templar" (Mr. John Ryder played in it, I think) was Mr. Angiolo R. Selous, who (unless I am misinformed) likewise wrote the "prize" comedy, under the T. P. Cooke bequest, of "True to the Core," played some years ago at the Surrey. And I have to thank Mr. A. C. Selous for his courtesy in reminding me of old times, and his kindness in forwarding me a copy of another original drama of his (unacted, I believe), entitled "Æsop; or, The Golden Calf."

During the Maddox management at the Princess's there was played with great success another altogether original drama of great power and interest, called "The King of the Commons," in which Macready played the leading character—a Scottish King Jamie, he of the "Gaberlunzie," I fancy. Modern managers grumble piteously about the difficulty of getting good pieces, new or old. Here is a list of half a dozen, produced in "the days before Boucicault":—"Love's Telegraph" (it is Scribe's *Le Gant et l'Eventail*: Madame Vestris and Charles Mathews were great in it); "Monseigneur" (a grand part of James Wallack's), Shirley Brooks's "Creole" (a most actable play), the "Templar" and "King of the Commons" (already cited), and "The Devil's In It," a wonderfully picturesque drama, in which, I think, Miss Emma Stanley played.

Or, if some aspiring playwrights are in quest of novels to dramatise, here are half a dozen that, so far as I know, have never been "done," and which appear to me to be replete with dramatic interest. Fielding's "Amelia"—(what an Amelia Miss Ellen Terry or Miss Litton would make, and what a grand scene the Vauxhall one would be!) "Paul Ferroll," Thomas Miller's "Gideon Giles the Roper" (a rural domestic romance of the first class, with any quantity of cruel squires, gamekeepers, poachers, and "merry brown hares" that come leaping in it), Thackeray's "Bedford Row Conspiracy," Charles Rowcroft's "Richard Savage," and Charles Lever's "Tom Burke."

The wonders of stenography *plus* photography will never cease, and they are growing "uncanny" and are beginning to frighten me. Here is a gentleman who, from Drummond-road, S.E., sends me the photographed copy of a post-card within the exiguous compass of which the chief shorthand and correspondence clerk of Messrs. Peck, Frean, and Co. has had the skill and the patience to arrange no less than fourteen thousand two hundred and fifty words in shorthand. The name of this phenomenal stenographer is Mr. G. H. Davidson, and his remarkable performance gained, I am told, the first prize in a competition open to all shorthand-writers in the United Kingdom or elsewhere, the object of which was to ascertain who could write in shorthand, by Pitman's system, the largest number words on a post-card, such words to be readable by the naked eye. At the distance, say, of a foot, the card looks like some minute pattern for summer "troussing" that advertising tailors are so fond of sending you; but, brought within reasonable reach, the 14,250 symbols are quite legible.

A slight verification is necessary as respects the street in which John Flaxman, "Sculptor of Eternity," as William Blake used to call him, died. Half a dozen correspondents have informed me that Flaxman (born 1755, died 1826) died in Buckingham-street, Cleveland-street, Portland-road, or, as another correspondent puts it, Bucknham-street, Fitzroy-square, and not in Buckingham-street, Strand, as I (with my head probably running on William Etty's long residence in Buckingham-street, Strand) set it down. The meagre biography of the illustrious sculptor prefixed to his lectures published in 1838) makes no mention of his last place of earthly abode; and in the fuller biography of Allan Cunningham, Flaxman's house in "Buckingham-street" is cited without the exact locality being specified. I was beginning to be fairly astonished at the minute topographical knowledge displayed by my correspondents (it would have astonished even the author of the "Handbook of London," Peter, the son of Allan Cunningham) when I learned that a memorial tablet, with the date of the artist's birth and death, had been affixed by the pious care of the Society of Arts to the front of the house where he really did die.

An aggravated case of organ-grinding at Notting-hill (see daily papers), which ended by two Italians, who refused to go away when requested to do so, being fined ten shillings each, suggests that the time is approaching for Mr. Bass's Street Music Act to be largely and stringently amended; and, at the same time, it emboldens me to make a little suggestion which may or may not be thought feasible. It is in quiet, well-to-do streets, and in the "gentle" suburbs that the organ-grinding nuisance is most severely felt. In poor and populous neighbourhoods, the inhabitants do not mind street music, and, indeed, I suspect, rather like it than otherwise. In the case of a quiet street, where a difference of opinion touching itinerant minstrels exists, why should not the residents be polled, and, if there be a two-thirds majority against the brown aliens from Leather-lane and the German "green-baize" bands, and so forth, why should not the parish authorities (under an amended Act of Parliament, of course) be empowered to affix in a conspicuous position at the corners of such street enamelled iron tablets bearing the inscription, in Italian, German, and English, "No Street Music Allowed Here," and specifying beneath the amount of fine or imprisonment, or both, to which a street musician found playing in that street would be liable if he persisted in playing after a first warning? The expense of the enamelled iron tablets would be very small, and might be borne by the inhabitants of the protected streets.

G. A. S.

THE KELLY GANG IN AUSTRALIA.

The colonists of Victoria and New South Wales, on both sides of the River Murray, have repeatedly, in the past two years, been thrown into excitement by the unpunished outrages of a large party of robbers and murderers, headed by the brothers Edward and Daniel Kelly. They first began as horse-stealers, about three years ago, in the hill ranges at the head of King river, Delatite county, not much above one hundred miles north-east of Melbourne. Being aided and abetted by numerous family connections and other accomplices residing in the district, just like the Neapolitan, Sicilian, and Greek brigands of Europe, they evaded all police attempts to effect their capture. In October, 1878, they waylaid and killed three police constables near Mansfield. In December, they made a descent from the Strathbogie ranges upon the small town of Euroa, where they openly robbed the bank of £5000, besides terrorising and plundering the townsfolk. The Victorian Government then sent a detachment of colonial militia, with artillery; but it could never meet the bushrangers, who next turned up, in February last year, at Jerilderie, in New South Wales, between the Murray and the Murrumbidgee rivers. Here they made prisoners of the police, and locked them up, while the robbers put on the policemen's clothes, took up their lodgings at the best hotels, and seized all the money in the bank. The two Colonial Governments offered rewards amounting to £8000 for their capture, but in vain; it was, however, latterly supposed that they had removed to Queensland, as some months passed without hearing of fresh depredations.

On June 26, at a place called Sebastopol, eight miles from Beechworth, in the Ovens Gold-fields district, this band of outlaws surrounded the hut of a young man, Aaron Sherritt, who had formerly been their accomplice. He had since given information against them; and there was a party of four police with him in the hut that very night. They forced a German neighbour to call on Sherritt to come to the door, which he unsuspectingly did, as he knew the German's voice; and then a man named Joe Byrne shot him dead. The police within the hut did not venture to come forth,



NED KELLY.

or even to fire a shot at the murderers, who sent a volley into the hut, and made an attempt to burn it down. But after staying outside all night they rode away triumphant, and visited the town of Beechworth. The news was telegraphed to Melbourne, from which Beechworth is about 185 miles distant by railway, and a special train was immediately despatched with a force of armed police, assisted by five black men, natives of Queensland, employed as trackers, under Sub-Inspector O'Connor. They were joined at Benalla, 122 miles from Melbourne, by Superintendent Hare, with eight mounted troopers and horses. The train proceeded through the night, with a pilot-engine running before it, from Benalla on the line to Beechworth. Two ladies, the wife of Sub-Inspector O'Connor and her sister, who wanted to go to their friends at Beechworth, were in the train; also the reporters of the Melbourne press, Mr. T. Carrington, special artist of the *Australasian Sketcher*, and one or two local volunteers. The pilot-engine was stopped by a warning that the rails had been torn up near the Glenrowan station, half-way from Benalla to Wangaratta. This had been done by the Kelly gang, who were then occupying a wooden one-storeyed building called the Glenrowan Hotel, kept by a Mrs. Jones. Superintendent Hare immediately determined to attack them in this house, which was only a hundred yards distant from the railway station. The besieging force, augmented by a few more police, under Superintendent Sadler, from Benalla, and from Wangaratta, under Sergeant Steele, numbered about thirty men. The number of the Kelly gang at Glenrowan was about the same, but few of them kept inside the house. The two conflicting parties, in the darkness of the night, long before daybreak, began firing at each other. The shrieks of women and children, with shouts, oaths, and curses from the men, were heard at intervals; there was Mrs. Jones, with her two children, one of whom was killed and the other wounded; a Mrs. Reardon, also with a boy; and two or three sisters of the Kellys, Mrs. Skillian and Kate Kelly, with another girl. It seems that Ned Kelly had made prisoners of many of the people of Glenrowan, and had shut them up in the station-master's house and in the hotel. There were forty-seven persons so confined by the



NIGHT ATTACK ON THE GLENROWAN HOTEL.



ROYAL ENGINEERS AT RUNNEMEDE : PONTOON BRIDGE OVER THE THAMES.—SEE NEXT PAGE.

outlaws. One was a platelayer on the railway, whom Kelly had forced to take up the rails, and who was accidentally shot. The fight went on some hours, but intermittently; Superintendent Hare was wounded in the wrist, but none of the police were killed. At daybreak, to the amazement of the attacking party, a man dressed in a long grey overcoat, wearing a huge iron helmet that completely covered his face and neck, stalked slowly forth, with a revolver firing deliberately at them here and there, between the trees that stood around the house. This was Ned Kelly. Some of the police fired at him, and were still more astonished to find that the bullets which struck his body did not hurt him. They felt a superstitious terror, and began to think he was a diabolical fiend. The fact was, that he had put on a suit of armour, consisting of breast-plate, shoulder-plates, back-plate, and helmet, a quarter of an inch thick, made to his order by two country blacksmiths. Some other members of the gang were attired in the same manner. Sergeant Steele, perceiving that Kelly's body was thus made bullet-proof, aimed at his legs, and soon brought him to the ground, when the police ran in and secured him. He had several wounds about the legs, feet, arms, and hands, and there were eighteen bullet-marks on his armour, which was massive, weighing 97 lb. altogether, but rudely fashioned. After his capture the fight outside became very slack, and at ten o'clock in the forenoon about twenty of the gang surrendered, by casting themselves prone on the ground and holding up their hands. At three in the afternoon, the women and other non-combatants having left the house, and the shooting stopped, the police set fire to the house, not knowing whether the men remaining inside were alive or dead. Mrs. Skillian wanted to go in, and call her brother Dan and his companions out to surrender, but she was not permitted to approach the house. The Rev. Mr. Gibney, the Roman Catholic priest, then made a similar attempt. He was the first to enter, and then found the dead bodies of Dan Kelly and Stephen Hart, much burnt, lying close to each other. It is believed that they agreed to kill one another, instead of allowing themselves to be taken. The body of Joe Byrne, who had been killed by a shot, and that of the platelayer Cherry, were also found in the house. Ned Kelly was carried a prisoner to Melbourne, and will be tried on a capital charge when his wounds are healed. The destruction of this gang has, of course, given much satisfaction to all honest and peaceable inhabitants of the Australian colonies.

ROYAL ENGINEERS PONTOONING ON THE THAMES.

The pontoon troop of the Royal Engineers has been encamped on the plain of Runnymede for about three weeks, with the object of practising the men in rapidly constructing and throwing bridges over the river. The troop is under the command of Major R. J. Bond, while the officers serving under him are Captain Waller and Lieutenants Rochfort Boyd, Godsal, Pemberton, and Irvine. It consists of about 200 men, with a hundred horses, and thirty-two pontoons and baggage waggons.

The camp was formed at the western extremity of Runnymede, opposite Magna Charta Island, on which the Great Charter was obtained from King John by the assembled Barons. The building on this island was originally a ferryman's cottage, of Norman Gothic architecture, designed by Savin, and constructed of the stone of Old Marlow Church, for the purpose of containing the celebrated traditional stone on which the Charter was signed. The pungent description of that historic event by the cabman or flyman who once brought a party to see the stone is accepted as the most graphic account of King John's submission to the Barons. It runs thus:—"They dragged him across by the 'air of his 'ed, and made him put his fist to it; and there was twenty-seven Barons a layin' in the long grass, in case he turned nasty." The room in which the stone is placed, called the "Painted Chamber," is ornamented with old oak panelling and with stained-glass windows, having the shields of King John and the Barons emblazoned on the walls. From a unique little structure on a rough, sedgy piece of ground, this house has, since its occupation by Mr. Clifford during the last twenty-five years, been enlarged into a comfortable private residence, and the grounds are now ornamenteally laid out and planted.

Attached to the island is an ancient private fishery, granted by charter to the monks of Ankerwyke, extending from the Bells of Ouseley to below Egham Lock. Mr. Clifford, who is a devoted angler, has not used it for his private advantage, but has taken great pains to improve and preserve the fishery for the benefit of his brother anglers. The island is bounded on the east by Ankerwyke Park, which contains the picturesque ruins of the nunnery where Anne Boleyn was an inmate, and the gigantic old cedar and yew trees under which she is said to have spent many hours of retirement.

The Royal Engineers' operations were commenced by rapidly, and with close attention to detail, unpacking the pontoons and stores at the water's edge, and then making a bridge, by the method known as "forming up." After that they were engaged in breaking it into rafts and rowing them up stream and forming transport rafts. On these first days the proceedings closed by floating down into single rafts, casting upper and lower anchors, re-forming the bridge, and dismantling. They next proceeded to forming the bridge for swinging, an operation achieved by making up the whole length along shore, and swinging round with the current into any position required. This would be the method employed in case of an enemy. The succeeding operation consisted in making a cut raft, at any required point in the bridge, the object of which is to allow any portion to be separated and drifted out. From this they proceeded to exercise the men in swinging the whole or any part of the bridge in any required position—an operation of no little difficulty on rapid tidal rivers—to allow loaded craft to steer straight to the opening made for them in the cut raft. This practice has greatly improved the men in skilfully manipulating the cables, by which every separate raft is hauled into position, up and down stream. The whole practice has been attended with such satisfactory results that they can construct a bridge across the Thames in less than twenty minutes.

After this practice a night operation was planned long after dark in dead silence. While Major Bond was engaged in bridging the stream a mounted body of the troops was sent down from Old Windsor to scour the banks, during which time two feints were made by rafts detached by Lieutenants Pemberton and Irvine; and the completion of the bridge would have been a great success if the crowd which lined the banks had not divulged the secret of his whereabouts. The whole series of operations, however, excited the enthusiastic admiration of a large concourse of spectators. The operation of the engineers, however, which has most interested the public remains to be noticed. At the invitation of Mr. Clifford two bridges were formed over the river by different methods, across which a mounted portion of the troop passed in succession, first in single file, and then in half sections, followed by eight baggage waggons, each drawn by

four horses, and the rear was brought up by three ladies on horseback. While this was going on a loaded barge came down the river, and the operation of "making cut" to let her pass through was as easily and rapidly executed as opening and closing a turnpike gate, to the delight of an admiring crowd, whose interest in the operations seemed to increase every day.

On the Friday of last week Colonel Fitzroy Somerset, commanding the Royal Engineers at Aldershot, visited the camp with his staff, and, after making a minute inspection and witnessing a series of operations, expressed his entire satisfaction with what he had seen. On Monday evening last, the non-commissioned officers of the detachment, with Sergeant-Major Oldham at their head, were entertained at the Royal Indian Engineering College, Cooper's-hill, by Colonel Chesney, R.E., President of that institution. On Tuesday the whole corps, under command of Major Bond, marched with the pontoon train by way of Egham to Staines, and passed over to the Lammas meadow, on the Middlesex side of the river. Here they speedily constructed a pontoon-bridge of fourteen anchored boats, by which they again crossed the river to the Surrey side, about eleven o'clock in the forenoon. They dismantled and removed the bridge in a very short time, and carried its materials back to the camp at Runnymede. The Royal Engineers are to break up the camp and go to Aldershot this day (Saturday).

Our Illustration is from a Sketch by our own Artist, with the aid of Mr. Delamotte's photographs of the place.

PARISIAN SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Paris, Tuesday, Sept. 7.

A French Ministry is like love: you never know how strong it is or how long it will last. The de Freycinet Cabinet, the members of which are at present scattered all over the country, is divided against itself, as we have already seen. M. de Freycinet declared at Montauban that the religious decrees would only be applied to the Jesuits: other Ministers declared that M. de Freycinet said so on his own responsibility. M. Gambetta refused to say anything about the matter, and is expected every day to start for Crete, in Switzerland, the seat of Mdme. Arnaud de l'Ariège, in order to avoid meeting M. de Freycinet when the latter returns to Paris. Yesterday the *Journal Officiel* gave M. de Freycinet a slap in the face, and announced that the Government had taken no engagement relative to the execution of the religious decrees either towards the Vatican, the Papal Nuncio, or anybody else—that, in short, the Government's liberty of action was complete, and its resolutions depended only upon itself; all assertions to the contrary being without foundation. If M. de Freycinet were mindful of his dignity he would resign after such a note.

The Jesuits have changed their tactics. When a Royal Ordinance in 1828 ordered the educational establishments which they directed to be subjected henceforward to the authority of the University; and when the same decree prohibited anyone from taking part in the direction or instruction of any educational establishment unless he had previously signed a declaration to the effect that he did not belong to any unauthorised congregation, the Jesuits did not attempt to resist or to elude the law. They shut up their establishments and went abroad, taking with them a few of their pupils, who, however, did not stay with them long. Now the Jesuits pretend to submit to the laws, but their schools and colleges remain open. Henceforward they belong by virtue of real or pretended cessions to civil societies, and when last Wednesday the police authorities visited the Jesuit schools in different parts of France they were everywhere introduced to gentlemen in lay costume or secular priests, who exhibited their title-deeds with the greatest readiness. The whole affair reminds one strongly of Henri Mounier's *Roman chez la Portière*. It is simply a matter of dress and disguise. The Radicals are naturally but little satisfied with the religious decrees. They demand the separation of the Church and State.

A painful event happened a few days ago which has caused great emotion not only at Paris, but all over France. A journalist, M. Ivan de Woestyne, allowed, let us hope, his loyalty, and good faith to be surprised, and made himself the echo of an atrocious calumny against Colonel Jung, one of the most distinguished and patriotic staff-officers of the Republic. M. de Woestyne accused Colonel Jung of having abstracted documents from the War Office, and of having communicated to the enemy important papers concerning the mobilisation of the army. Colonel Jung is the author of two volumes on "Bonaparte and his Times," in which, with the aid of documentary evidence of the most crushing and incontestable character, he has shown up the odious aspects of the early years of the first Napoleon. His book, which is animated throughout with a profound admiration for the heroes of the armies of the first Republic, has created Colonel Jung many enemies amongst the members of the reactionary parties. The fact that it is dedicated to M. Gambetta, and that its author had access to documents which had been kept secret under former régimes, did not tell in Colonel Jung's favour. How the calumny arose it is almost impossible even to suggest at present; but the matter is coming before the courts, and the three journals who published the calumny—the *Gaulois*, *Gil Blas*, and *Paris Journal*—are to be prosecuted. At first Colonel Jung demanded from M. de Woestyne a retraction or reparation by arms. M. de Woestyne refused, saying that all the statements he had made were true. In presence of this declaration, Colonel Jung had only the remedy of civil justice, and M. de Woestyne's subsequent acceptance of a duel is of no account. The whole affair is to be regretted; and, while admitting M. de Woestyne's sincerity, one cannot help looking upon this calumny as another instance of the systematic bad faith and disloyalty of French political parties. The case will be called before the *Juge d'Instruction* to-morrow (Wednesday).

The Jung affair ought logically to lead to other matters of equal if not of greater importance. If the Government thinks it to be necessary to prosecute newspapers on account of the Jung incident, can it any longer defer an examination of the case of Lieutenant Marcerou, chief warden of the Prison des Chantiers, against whom the *Intransigeant* has for weeks and weeks been daily bringing charges of the most outrageous barbarity? Can it continue to allow the Radical press to treat as assassins Generals Gallifet, Gaillard, and Canrobert? The question raised is really that of the honour of the army. Apropos of the Marcerou affair, I may add that the deputy M. Benjamin Raspail has written to the Minister of Public Works demanding the dismissal of "that monster" from the post of Central Commissioner which he occupies at the Vincennes Railway station, and announcing, in case of the Minister's refusal, to bring the matter before the Chambers. The silence of the Government in this matter is, indeed, inexplicable, and we may look forward to lively times after the opening of Parliament.

The existence of the Parisian—the typical Parisian of literature, I mean—is regulated almost chronometrically.

The years *se suivent et se ressemblent*. You have the theatres and balls, the Salon, the Grand Prix, *la Villégiature*, the seaside, the shooting season, or *la chasse*. This year there is a singular scarcity of game in France, and on some of the great estates—as, for instance, on Rothschild's château at Ferrières—there will be no shooting. The severe winter and the summer hailstorms have spread destruction amongst both fur and feathers. Nevertheless, the Prefecture of Police of Paris alone has issued between five and six thousand gun licenses, and on the opening day last Sunday the railway stations were crowded with *chasseurs* rigged out in those marvellous canvas costumes which can be bought in the bazaars for a few francs. The Parisian *chasseur* buys his complete outfit, including game-bag, gun, and cartridges, in a bazaar; and the favourite scene of his exploits is the plain of Saint-Denis, where he makes war on the sparrows and on the seat of his neighbour's trousers. Like that of the patient anglers of the Seine, the pleasure of the Parisian *chasseur* lies in expectation. He also gets some fun out of his costume and gaiters. His game-bag, however, is a secret source of shame, not to say of expense. To save appearances, he is obliged to fill it at the poulticer's shop.

The theatrical season has begun in spite of the oppressive heat which the Parisians have been enduring for more than a fortnight. In a few days all the houses will have opened their doors, most of them with revivals. Parisian managers have adopted the system of not paying their actors during the months of July and August. In order to make both ends meet, the actors go and play in the watering-places and seaside casinos. Consequently the rehearsal of new pieces cannot be begun until the month of September. At present therefore there is nothing important to be mentioned at the theatres.

On Sunday Mdlle. Sarah Bernhardt began her tour in the French provinces at Angers. The theatre was not exactly full to suffocation, owing to the high prices demanded for the seats. At Saumur and Tours the Mayors would not allow the prices of the seats to be raised, and so the great actress did not visit those towns. The success of the provincial tour of this "artistic phenomenon," as Sarah is now called, is likely to be very much compromised, on the one hand, by the refusal of the Mayors to authorise the raising of the prices in the municipal theatres, and, on the other hand, by the unwillingness of the thrifty and parsimonious provincials to pay fifteen francs for an orchestra stall. Rachel, in her time, encountered the same difficulty.

Gounod has just finished a grand oratorio, called "Rédemption," for which, I am told, he asks 100,000f.

In consideration of the increased use of vitriol by jealous lovers and abandoned mistresses, the police have at last issued an order forbidding chemists to sell poisons or corrosive substances except on presentation of a doctor's prescription.

On Sunday last, 20 *Gutenberg*, an 92, the orthodox Positivists made their annual pilgrimage to the tomb of Auguste Comte, in the Cemetery of Père Lachaise. In the afternoon they held a meeting in the Rue Monsieur le Prince, and in the evening there was a banquet at a restaurant in the Palais Royal. The English Positivists were represented by Professor Beesly and Dr. Bridges.

The countrymen of Chaucer and Gower will be interested to know that Paris has not forgotten the glory of the *trouvère*. Jean de Meung, surnamed "Clownel" or the limper, who, being, as a contemporary chronicler states, a doctor in holy theology and *philosophe tresparfont*, sachant tout ce qui à entendement humain est scible, added eighteen thousand verses to the original four thousand verses of the "*Roman de la Rose*." The house in which Jean de Meung lived and wrote at Paris still exists: it is the old Hôtel de la Tournelle, which has been rebuilt, and now bears the number 218 in the Rue Saint-Jacques. The learned and active committee of Parisian inscriptions have decided to place on the façade of this hotel a reproduction of a medallion portrait of Jean de Meung, and the following four verses from the "*Apparition de Jehan de Meung*," written at the beginning of the fifteenth century by Honore Bonet:

Je suis mestre Jehan de Meung,
Qui, par maints vers, sans nule prose,
Fis cy le Roman de la Rose,
En cest hôtel que cy voyez.

T. C.

LOCAL TAXATION RETURNS.

The ninth annual return of local taxation for England for 1878-9, which has been tabulated under the direction of the Local Government Board, has been issued. The total raised during the year 1878-9 by local taxation was £30,898,828. In addition to this sum, Treasury subventions, amounting to £2,153,362, were received in easement of the local rates.

The amounts received respectively for local and imperial services were as follows:—Levied by rates falling on rateable property, local, £25,685,896; imperial, £2,146,274. Levied by tolls, dues, and rents falling on traffic, local, £4,756,349; imperial, £7088. Levied by duties falling on consumable articles, local, £456,583. The Treasury grants in aid of local taxation exceed the sums entered in the accounts of the local authorities forwarded to the board. This difference arises for the most part from the Government taking upon itself several charges in relief of local taxation that do not appear in the annual returns. The sum voted by Parliament for the financial year 1878-9 was for England, £2,873,675. In addition to the receipts from rates and subventions, as mentioned above, a sum of £18,752,462 was received on account of rates from other sources, including loans, making the total receipts £46,584,632. The total expenditure on account of rates was £44,865,789. Under the head of tolls, dues, and fees a further sum of £2,558,017 was received from harbour dues and other sources, making the total receipts £7,321,454, against which the expenditure is £6,847,359. The expenditure under the head of duties was £462,771. The local loans outstanding at the close of the year amounted to £128,486,987.

The grand total of local taxation for the year shows receipts from all sources, £54,363,169, and expenditure, £52,175,907.

The marked approval accorded to the "Railway Time Tables," published by Messrs. Cassell, Petter, and Galpin, by reason of the simplicity of their arrangement and the facility with which the through routes can be consulted, have induced that enterprising firm to issue an enlarged and improved series. A large railway map of Great Britain, which has been specially drawn and engraved for this new series, appears for the first time in the September issue.

The Bedford police discovered last Saturday, in a house in Harder's-road, several thousand pounds' worth of property, believed to be the proceeds of various recent burglaries. The articles consist principally of watches and jewellery. In one chest was a large quantity of diamonds, the settings of which were destroyed beyond identification. Many of the watch-cases were defaced, but one box contained watches bearing the name of Mr. Dyer, of Regent-street. Five persons have been arrested in connection with the matter.

THE PLAYHOUSES.

The recent tropical heat of the weather seems fairly to have terrified Mr. John S. Clarke, who has postponed his re-appearance at the Haymarket Theatre, which establishment will consequently remain closed until the 20th inst. Mr. John S. Clarke, you should have cried "*Sursum corda!*" and opened the "little theatre in the Haymarket" (now no longer "little" and no more in a market for hay). In the matter of English weather, we are always entitled to expect the worst. Since Mr. Clarke was alarmed by the tropical temperature, presaging, as he seemed to think, empty benches, and since (on that terribly hot Saturday night) the leaden-covered dome of St. Paul's, converted by the rays of the Sun into a colossal "heater," gave out, in return, so much nocturnal caloric as half stifled the dwellers in the Churchyard and Paternoster-row (there are still a good many people who are fain, either from choice or compulsion, to live in the City) a complete change has taken place, meteorologically speaking. The dogs have ceased to prawl about panting, and with a hydrophobic expression on their countenances, and we can all breathe. There has been plenty of refreshing rain (it is quite cheering to see the dear old London mud again); and it is nice, cool, cloudy, theatre-going weather.

Not but what I admire the more than Spartan fortitude with which many of the London managers have encountered the playhouse-emptying influences of this fiery tail to the dog-days. In the generality of cases their heroic constancy has been rewarded. In particular is "*The World*" at Drury Lane, continuing to do excellent business; and at the Gaiety neither Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Florence on the one hand, nor Mr. John Hollingshead on the other, have certainly any reason to complain of the quantity and quality of the enthusiastic audiences who nightly acclaim the two talented transatlantic comedians in "*The Mighty Dollar*." Please look at the exquisite little sketches by Mr. Charles Keene of the Hon. Bardwell Sloane and Mrs. Gen'l Gilfroy in this week's *Punch*.

I have been to the Alhambra Theatre Royal (in days gone by one was supposed to visit the Alhambra disguised as a Californian gold-digger or an Australian stock-raiser, or a Cape ostrich-farmer, or with a false nose and blue spectacles, *mais nous avons changé tout cela*)—and the Alhambra, as a theatre licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, is now as decorously conducted as any other dramatic establishment in London—to see the grand new Ballet d'Action introduced into the third act of "*La Fille du Tambour Major*." The ballet, an extremely brilliant and animated divertissement, is entitled "*The Alpine Brigands*," and has a neat little plot of its own bearing on the mischances of a certain Count Lelio, who is captured by the brigands and their chief, Petruzzio, but who is fortunate enough to be fallen in love with by Zanetta, the brigand chief's lovely and accomplished daughter. Add to these the merrymaking of a gathering of peasants, male and female, who have met not only for the purposes of a *festa*, but to devise means for furthering the cause of the independence of Italy from the Alps to the Adriatic, and you have the plot of "*The Alpine Brigands*" in a nutshell. Stay; there is also the Austrian army, which, led by the Archduke Charles, Generals Mack and Wurmser, Count Nugent, Prince Windischgrätz, Jellachich, Ban of Croatia, Field Marshal Haynau, and all the Austrian Lloyd grenadiers, is advancing to take anybody into custody, when, in the nick of time, a rustic bridge is broken down by the peasantry, and the brigands, and the hated Tedeschi are left on the wrong side of the ravine, lamenting, like Lord Ullin in the ballad.

Mdlle. Pertoldi danced with much grace and agility as the enamoured Zanetta; and Mdlle. J. de Gilbert looked so handsome and so fascinating in black velvet and grey silk hose as Count Lelio (she reminded one throughout of a kind of etherealised Count Rodolpho in *La Sonnambula*) that her being fallen in love with by a brigand chief's sister, or anybody else's sister, might be deemed quite a matter of course. Miss Matthews showed considerable mimetic as well as choreographic talent as Petruzzio; and Mdlle. Rosa was prettily petulant and generally sprightly as Pipeta, an inn-keeper's daughter. The efforts of these fair artistes were efficiently seconded by the splendidly drilled Alhambra Corps de Ballet; and altogether "*The Alpine Brigands*" forms a very sparkling supplement indeed to Mr. H. B. Farnie's clever version of Offenbach's bustling comic opera, and reflects the highest credit on the Maître du Ballet, M. Bertrand; the Musical Director, Mr. G. Jacobi; and the stage-manager, Mr. Richard Mansell. By-the-way, in the ball-room scene in the second act of "*La Fille du Tambour Major*" there is introduced a solemnly graceful Minuet and Gavotte danced by the coryphées in slow and stately measure to some quaintly plaintive music composed by Raymond Lully (I think, for one of the interludes in Molière's "*Bourgeois Gentilhomme*" in the seventeenth century. Do you remember the "*Menuet de la Cour*" that Taglioni and Cerito (or was it Carlotta Grisi?) used to dance in "*Don Giovanni*," at Her Majesty's Theatre, ever so many years ago? Ah! the sublimity of that dance. *Dis moi, soldat, dis moi, t'en souviens-tu?* 'Tis fitting to ask the question, for only the old soldiers can reply. And yet I had the honour to see Taglioni (Madame La Comtesse Gilbert des Voisins) the other night at Sadler's Wells, looking as fresh—well, a great deal fresher than the spectator who was respectfully gazing at her feet.

On Monday afternoon, in a refreshing shower, I betook myself to the Imperial Theatre (late Aquarium) to behold a "morning" performance. The house (the stalls especially) was very well attended; from which fact I was led to infer, first, that there must be a great many more well-to-do people in London just now than is generally imagined; and, next, that there are always vast numbers of people who have nothing to do. Else, why go to a morning performance at three o'clock in the afternoon? I was somewhat perplexed, however, by the remembrance that I was not one of the people with nothing to do; and yet I was sitting in the stalls of the Imperial Theatre (late Aquarium) at four p.m. In one sense, I am sorry that I attended the theatre at present under the lesseehip of Mr. W. Edgcumbe Rendle, who, by arrangement with Mr. Hollingshead, has secured the services of the regular company of the Gaiety Theatre: for I spent all the money I had in my pocket in the purchase of a deliciously illustrated duodecimo copy of the Chevalier de Florian's "*Galatée*" (Amsterdam, 1785), at a book shop in Parliament-street, and was fain to walk home (never borrow the silver to pay for a cab from your household; they have odd notions of exchange, and expect you to return gold for silver); but, in the next place, I am glad that I went to Westminster, since the visit enabled me to witness the performance of Mr. Reece's Gaiety burlesque of "*Young Van Winkle*," which I had not the good fortune to see before, and which is an extremely funny performance. Miss Nellie Farren was as arch, agile, mischievous, and captivating as ever as young Rip (although I failed to like her dress, which was dingy and ill-fitting); Miss C. Gilchrist was very graceful as Hendrick; Mr. J. J. Dallas made an excruciatingly comic Gretchen (Rip's mother), and sang with great *verve* and drollery; and, I suppose, burlesque flendishness, grim

humour, and grotesque malevolence never had a better representative than Mr. E. W. Royce, with his musical hat, his abnormally long-fingered black gloves, and his astonishing antics, gestures, and gyrations. He is certainly a Prince of the Preposterous, this Mr. E. W. Royce. "*Young Rip Van Winkle*," which went throughout swimmingly, was preceded by a comedietta in one act, called "*Mad*," specially written by Mr. Edward Rose for the Misses Amy and Louise Lionel, to illustrate the marvellous likeness existing between those sister artistes.

G. A. S.

THE GLOUCESTER MUSICAL FESTIVAL.

We gave last week full details of the arrangements for the 157th meeting of the three choirs of Hereford, Worcester, and Gloucester, which took place this week at the last-named city.

The festival was inaugurated on Tuesday morning with the usual special service in the cathedral, the three associated choirs having co-operated in the musical portions thereof. The customary sermon in allusion to the purpose of the occasion was preached by the Dean of Worcester. The musical service was that by Wesley in E, the anthem having been the late Sir John Goss's "*Praise the Lord*."

After a short interval, the first of the festival performances took place in the Cathedral, "*Elijah*" having, as frequently before, been chosen for the opening oratorio. A special feature in the performance of Mendelssohn's great work was Madame Albani's fine rendering of the soprano solos of the second part. Those of the first part were well sung by Miss Anna Williams; the duet (with chorus), "*Lord, bow Thine ear*," having been efficiently rendered by Misses De Fonblanque and H. Wilson. The baritone music assigned to the Prophet, and the tenor solos, were, as often before, effectively given, respectively, by Mr. Santley and Mr. E. Lloyd. Madame Patey made the usual effect in the air "*O rest in the Lord*," having also sung with fine effect in the other contralto music of the second part. The trio, "*Lift Thine eyes*," by Madame Albani, Miss A. Williams, and Madame Patey, was one of the specialties of the day. Miss Damian sang the air "*Woe unto them*" (and other passages), with nice feeling, and Mr. G. Cox, Mr. F. King, and Signor Ghilberti rendered serviceable aid in the concerted music. The chorus singing was throughout of a high order.

Mr. C. H. Lloyd (organist of Gloucester Cathedral) conducted efficiently, and Mr. L. Colborne (of Hereford) presided ably at the organ.

The first of the concerts given in the Shirehall took place on Tuesday evening, when Mr. C. H. H. Parry's setting of scenes from Shelley's "*Prometheus Unbound*" was produced, preceded and followed by a miscellaneous selection. Mr. Parry had previously made his name known by several elaborate productions, including an orchestral overture, a piano-forte concerto, and other character music. The work now referred to was composed expressly for the festival, and was conducted by the composer. It is written for four solo voices, chorus, and orchestra. The general tone of the music is sombre—not to say heavy—and of its merits and characteristics it will be well to reserve specific opinion until after a second hearing, should any such opportunity be offered by a London performance. The work consists of recitations and other solo passages, two quartets, and several choruses and semi-choruses. The solo portions were well sung by Miss Anna Williams, Madame Patey, Mr. E. Lloyd, and Mr. Francis; and the music had the further advantage of a thoroughly efficient performance in its orchestral and choral details, notwithstanding which, the general impression left was that of crude incoherence. It is only fair, however, to say that several portions were applauded by a well-disposed audience. Tuesday evening's programme also included Beethoven's overture to "*Fidelio*" and Mozart's symphony in E flat, and vocal pieces by the principal singers. Mr. Lloyd conducted, with the exception above specified.

Wednesday morning's performance in the cathedral opened with the two exquisite movements of Schubert's symphony in B minor, of which only these portions were completed. Mozart's "*Requiem*" followed, and Spohr's "*Last Judgment*" formed the second part of the day's programme. Wednesday evening was appropriated to Mendelssohn's "*St. Paul*"; on Thursday Leonardo Leo's "*Dixit Dominus*" in C, Palestrina's "*Stabat Mater*," Mr. H. Holmes's new cantata "*Christmas Day*," and Beethoven's "*Missa Solemnis*" in D, constituted a long and varied programme; and yesterday (Friday) morning, the oratorio performances concluded with "*The Messiah*" all these being given in the Cathedral, where, in the evening of the same day, a special service was held, including Mr. C. H. Lloyd's new "*Magnificat*" and "*Nunc Dimitis*," both composed for the festival. Of the later occasions referred to, and of the second concert in the Shirehall (on Thursday evening) we must speak next week.

The eighth session of the Westminster College of Chemistry and Pharmacy was held last week at Hawkstone Hall, Westminster-bridge-road. Mr. Woolton, the secretary, read the annual report, which stated that the College continued to lead the van in passes. Out of 196 students last year 151 had passed, of whom 129 were minor students and twenty preliminaries. Mr. G. S. V. Wills, the principal of the college, then gave an address to the students, in which he impressed upon them the importance of a systematic arrangement of their studies, to the adoption of which he considered the success of the college was in a great measure due.

At the meeting of the Commissioners of Sewers on Tuesday the Fishmongers' Company made a report stating that during the month of July last 93 tons 10 cwt. of fish had been seized at Billingsgate Market and destroyed as being unfit for human food. Deputy Walter said it was to be very much regretted that so large a quantity of valuable human food should be wasted in this manner, and he inquired whether it was not possible for some steps to be taken to prevent such a wholesale waste. Mr. Rudkin said that during hot weather, such as had been recently experienced, it was impossible to prevent fish from becoming rapidly putrid—and, in fact, a very considerable portion of fish conveyed to Billingsgate was in a putrid condition before it reached the market.

In London last week 2402 births and 1460 deaths were registered. Allowing for increase of population, the births were 22 below, while the deaths exceeded by 10 the average numbers in the corresponding week of the last ten years. The deaths included 5 from smallpox, 15 from measles, 47 from scarlet fever, 10 from diphtheria, 25 from whooping-cough, 23 from different forms of fever, and 232 from diarrhoea; thus to the seven principal diseases of the zymotic class 357 deaths were referred, against 392 and 395 in the two preceding weeks. These 357 deaths were 11 below the corrected average number from the same diseases in the corresponding week of the last ten years. In Greater London 3017 births and 1832 deaths were registered. The mean temperature of the air was 67.3 deg., being 7.2 deg. above the average.

THE MONTHS: SEPTEMBER.

Waering between Summer and Autumn—now radiant as in the days of hay harvest, now smiling through softer airs and serener skies—there is but one month in the year more pleasant than September, and that is leafy June. The fresh voluptuous verdure with which Nature then covers herself, and the knowledge that we have the summer all before us, invests June with an indescribable charm; but September, too, steals away our hearts in her wooing, more meekly, perhaps, but not less sweetly, for the parting glimpses she gives us of the summer are of summer in her fairest and gentlest mood, and what she shows us of autumn is so soft and lovely we are almost beguiled into forgetting the winter that lies behind her.

In woodland, copse, and thicket we note Summer's lingering footsteps; for she cannot bear that the leaves she loves so dearly should be suffered to shrivel or even change their colour, and so she loiters, turning every now and then to arrest the covetous hand of Autumn, who, however, towards the close of the month, has quite commenced her reign by tingeing the woodlands here and there with her mellow tints.

Some of the birds, whose soft little hearts perhaps are chiding them for not having honoured Summer as they should, chide that the moulting season is over, again burst forth into song, and with plaintive voice beseech the loiterer still to stay. The thrush runs through his sweetest length of notes, and the blackbird whistles loud and clear, and the linnet pipes his charming little lay, and others of the feathered tribe try their seductive wiles; and lingering Summer for a moment turns with sweet sad smile to listen. But, strain their little throats as they will, they cannot quite recover the fulness of tone that made so rapturous their love-songs of the sweet spring-time; and, because they must sing their best or not at all, they soon become mute again, saving such perennial warblers as the robin and the wren. Almost as pathetic as the failure of the birds to regain the lost chords of their spring melodies is the effort made at this season of the year by the woodbine, and a few other plants, to bloom once more as in the fresh young days of spring: the woodbine's blossoms come again, but the scent, which was the great charm of its hanging festoons in June, is now infinitely fainter, so much fainter that the flowers seem suddenly to droop in despair.

At most of our watering-places there are strong indications that summer is not yet over—or rather that people will not believe it is! "Come unto these yellow sands" is a refrain still eagerly caught up by the holiday-makers, who may be seen, like swarms of bees, on every stretch of beach around our coasts where lies a town or fair-sized village: lounging most of them, some smoking, others flirting, gazing on the wild sea waves and fancying themselves born poets, reading novels more frothy than the foam on the eddying water at their feet, disporting themselves in that water in attitudes not always graceful, and otherwise indulging their periodical lapse of idleness. And yachts and pleasure steamers are plunging and rolling and scudding round our shores in shoals; and everyone forgets that the evenings and mornings will soon become decidedly chilly, and flouts the idea that we islanders commence our holidays too late.

September is a favourite month for fishing, and every shady nook on a thousand river-banks is in possession of the most patient of sportsmen: green mossy banks beneath which lusty trout entice their pursuers into loveliest scenes of nature; or where deep, still rivers meander through interminable copses, and in whose translucent depths shimmer the silvery sides of the beautiful grayling and the voracious pike; or where rapid curling streams flow over pebbly and sandy bottoms, revealing the handsome, active little gudgeon; or where the waters are limpid and clear, and roach and dace disport themselves. It is a good month for barbel, whose haunts are in the deepest parts of rapid streams; the bold, dashing perch, who is to be found everywhere; the unsavoury chub, who loves to lie in deep quiet holes under shelving banks; and, indeed, for most of our fresh-water fish. And our engraving reminds us that eels should perhaps be included in the category, which wriggling creatures, in the Thames and most large rivers, are taken principally with night-lines and in eel-baskets, or pottles, as they are commonly called. These slippery customers, however, are no favourites with the anglers, since they have a trick of tying the line full of knots and twisting it inextricably round their bodies. But while nearly all the other river-fish may now be caught, the noblest denizen of our northern streams, the lordly salmon, is protected by law, that is, after the earlier part of the month; for during September and October, as a rule, the salmon pass up the rivers and torrents to the shallows and fords where they spawn, on their way thither leaping over every obstacle that lies in their path—springing over cataracts eight and ten feet high, and forcing their way against rapids and powerful volumes of descending water in a manner that has won the admiration and surprise of all who have witnessed their feats of power and agility—feats, by-the-way, that are performed in less imposing fashion and in less boisterous waters, by the trout.

But while river-banks and yellow sands suggest the idea that the warm weather cannot yet be over, and while the still verdant appearance of the trees, and the singing once more of the birds, whisper in our ears that the Summer is surely lingering—there are symptoms of the advent of Autumn—aye, that she is in our very midst. The corn-fields are swept and bare, ploughing has commenced, apples are ripening fast, hop-picking is in full swing, and, surest sign of all that the year is waining, the swallows are beginning to assemble for their long and perilous flight to Africa. With quivering wings and sharp twittering notes, these summer-loving birds are hovering over their various meeting-places, waiting for others to swell their ranks, skimming the air in graceful evolutions, crossing and recrossing each other's path, without ever striking one against another; and the very young ones, their little wings weary with unwanted exertion, are persuading their parents to bear them on their stronger, well-tried pinions. Very pleasant it is to watch them, yet all too surely do they tell us, pretty things! that Autumn has really come; just as surely as the corn-fields that are now so painfully trim in their stubby nakedness. The corn is all, or nearly all, cut and stacked: and the partridges, that erst felt so secure and safe, have fled for refuge to the nearest groves and covers; and the little bindweed, weeping, hangs its pale pinky face, for in vain it raises its tender tendrils for aught to cling to; and that other little gem of the corn-fields, the pheasant's eye (*Adonis autumnalis*), shrinking from the full glance of heaven, tries to hide itself in its feathery foliage, blushing the while as deeply as when Aphrodite's tears fell on the petals that herself had caused to spring from the life-blood of her wounded love.

But though some of us may gaze with sadness on the denuded corn-fields, others there are who view the stubble with very different eyes. The heart of the sportsman leaps for joy. Little he reckcs that the blood-stained flower of Adonis is being scorched by the sun, or that the bindweed sends forth its tendrils into unsympathising air, or that the nut-brown partridges can no longer hide themselves under shelter of the corn; nay, this is just what he has been waiting for, the revealing of their haunts.





CHIEFS OF THE MIRIDITES, ON THE MONTENEGRIN FRONTIER.—SEE NEXT PAGE.

THE COURT.

The most stirring incident of the week at Court has been the gratifying intelligence of Sir F. Roberts's brilliant victory in Afghanistan after his successful march to Candahar. Her Majesty at once telegraphed her congratulations, through the Viceroy, to Sir F. Roberts and his gallant troops.

The Queen had already conveyed her sympathy to Mrs. Brooke on the death of her husband, the late Brigadier-General Brooke, who fell in the sortie when endeavouring to carry off Captain Cruikshank, R.E., when wounded, out of action, at the recent sortie from Candahar.

The Dean of Westminster and the Rev. Dr. Donald Macleod dined with her Majesty last Saturday.

Divine service was performed at Balmoral on Sunday by Dr. Macleod, the Queen, Princess Beatrice, and Prince Leopold attending.

Earl Spencer arrived as Minister in attendance upon her Majesty; and Mr. Charles Lennox Peel, Clerk of the Council, arrived at the castle.

A Council was held by the Queen on Monday, Prince Leopold, the Lord President, and Lieutenant-General the Right Hon. Sir Henry Ponsonby being present. By her Majesty's order Parliament was prorogued from last Tuesday to Nov. 24, and the Convocations of Canterbury and York until Nov. 25. Earl Spencer, after dining with her Majesty, left Balmoral for town with the Queen's reply to the Address of both Houses of Parliament. Her Majesty's visitors also left the castle.

The enjoyable weather of the past week has made the Queen's excursions in this picturesque neighbourhood frequent and pleasant. Princess Beatrice rides and walks daily; and Prince Leopold is out every day.

Mr. Walter D. Campbell, of Blythswood, who has been at Balmoral since Mr. Boyle left last week, has dined with her Majesty.

The Queen was much distressed by the accounts of the recent railway accidents, and her Majesty has been in frequent communication with the Government as to the means to be adopted to provide as far as possible for the safety of those who travel upon or are connected with the working of railways.

The Prince and Princess of Wales shot through the covers at Cranbury Park, near Winchester, the seat of Mr. Tankerville Chamberlayne, on Tuesday.

His Royal Highness has been compelled by his numerous engagements to abandon, with much regret, the project of visiting the Australasian Colonies on the occasion of the Melbourne Exhibition. The Prince had greatly desired to carry out this arrangement if circumstances had permitted.

Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar and Countess Dornberg have left Portsmouth for Scotland, on a visit to the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, the brother of the Countess, at Gordon Castle, Fochabers, N.B.

The Grand Duke Constantine of Russia arrived at Claridge's Hotel last Saturday from St. Petersburg. On Sunday his Imperial Highness attended Divine service at the Russian Chapel in Welbeck-street; and in the afternoon the Grand Duke inspected the Zoological Gardens and afterwards dined at Richmond. His Imperial Highness dined with his Excellency Prince Lobanoff at the Russian Embassy on Monday, and lunched with him the next day. The Grand Duke has paid various private visits, and numerous visitors have called at his hotel, Mr. Gladstone's being among the names inscribed in the visitors' books.

FASHIONABLE MARRIAGES.

At All Saints' Church, Ennismore-gardens, on Tuesday, the Hon. North de Coigny Dalrymple, Scots Guards, second son of the Earl of Stair, was married to Marcia Kathleen Anne, youngest daughter of the Hon. Sir Adolphus F. O. Liddell, Under-Secretary of State for the Home Department. A detachment of non-commissioned officers and men of the 1st Battalion Scots Guards—namely, fifteen sergeants, sixteen corporals, and sixty men—lined the aisle and the pathway from the road to the church door. Mr. H. Wickham, Scots Guards, was best man, and the bridesmaids were the Ladies Mary, Anne, and Emily Dalrymple, sisters of the bridegroom, Miss Mary Liddell, sister of the bride, Miss Geraldine Liddell, Lady Lilian Paulet, Lady Jane Seymour Conyngham, and Miss Wickham. The Hon. and Rev. R. Liddell, Vicar of St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, and uncle of the bride, performed the ceremony, assisted by the Rev. Maynard Wodehouse Currie, Rector of Hingham, Norfolk. The bride wore a white satin dress, bodice high to the throat, trimmed with ruffles and kiltings of the same, and draped with old point de gaze lace, and over a wreath of orange-flowers a tulle veil. Her jewels were a diamond pendant, the gift of the Earl of Stair; a diamond and ruby bracelet, the Countess of Stair's gift; a necklace, the present of the bridegroom; and diamond star, the Earl of Cawdor's present. The bridesmaids were dressed alike in costumes of white Sicilienne trimmed with white lace, and bonnets of deep carnation-coloured velvet. Each carried a bouquet of dark red roses, and wore a monogram brooch, set with black and white pearls, the gift of the bridegroom. On leaving the church the Hon. North Dalrymple received a telegram from the magistrates and town council of Girvan congratulating him on his marriage. The wedding party breakfasted at the Hon. Sir Adolphus Liddell's residence, Rutland-gate. At half-past one the Hon. N. and Mrs. Dalrymple started for Dilton Park, the Duke of Buccleuch's seat near Slough, for their honeymoon. The bride's travelling dress was of dark red Surat silk, and bonnet to match. The wedding presents were of great value, and included from Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein a gold locket, with coral and pearl centre, and a fan; from the tenants and feuars on the Bargany estate, and the inhabitants of Girvan and Daily, a large old silver bowl on an ebony plinth, mounted in silver, with a suitable inscription; also four silver candelabra, and a case of six silver-gilt apostle fruit spoons. Mr. Dalrymple's brother officers in the 1st Battalion Scots Guards sent a handsome clock, having on the top a mounted huntsman in silver; and the Hon. Sir Adolphus Liddell's servants' present consisted of a chased silver salver.

Lady Beatrice Pelham-Clinton and Mr. Cecil Lister-Kaye will be married at Castle Blayney, Ireland, on the 16th inst.; and the marriage of Mr. P. Egerton Warburton, M.P. for Mid-Cheshire, and the Hon. Antoinette Saumarez will take place at St. Peter's Church, Onslow-gardens, at the close of this month.

Mr. Cumberland, the gentleman who recently exposed the trickery of a "spiritualistic medium" in Bloomsbury, afforded considerable amusement yesterday week to a party of ladies and gentlemen invited to the Charing-Cross Hotel to witness a number of "manifestations," and learn how they were done. If one or more inflexible "spiritualists" present, being convinced against their will, were "of the same opinion still," the majority of the company were clearly much entertained by Mr. Cumberland's lucid explanations of the means by which the "medium" deludes the senses.

PARLIAMENT.

CLOSE OF THE SESSION.

Parliament broke up for the holidays on Tuesday, the 7th inst. The Session has been generally regarded as a vexatiously prolonged one; but, seeing that, albeit the present Parliament assembled after the General Election on April 29, the Queen's Speech was not read, and actual business was not begun until May 20, it may be argued that during the four months or so Mr. Gladstone's Ministry has had for legislation the total of important measures passed will compare favourably with the record of any six months' Session of the last Parliament.

Mr. Gladstone's reappearance in the House of Commons last Saturday, evidently completely restored to health by his voyage round the coast in the Grantly Castle, elicited a warm chorus of congratulatory cheers from both sides of the House. There was some of the freshness of a sea breeze in his clear and vigorous speech. This welcome sign of renovation was noticeable at the outset, when the Prime Minister made his guarded reply to Sir Wilfrid Lawson's question as to any contemplated "armed coercion" on the part of the Government. It was more noticeable still when (the Marquis of Hartington having satisfactorily answered Lord Randolph Churchill's ingenious indictment of the Indian Executive for the disaster which overtook General Burrows) Mr. Gladstone rose to end the debate on Eastern Affairs initiated by Mr. Cowen. The senior member for Newcastle-on-Tyne had eloquently spoken very much as any member of the Earl of Beaconsfield's Administration might have spoken on behalf of Turkey; and Sir Charles Dilke's able reply had not prevented Sir Wilfrid Lawson from entering a fresh protest against "armed coercion," nor kept Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett from airing afresh his Ottoman notions. Cheered with marked cordiality as he approached the table, Mr. Gladstone rebutted with rare vigour the attacks of Mr. Cowen and Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett, provoking the House to laughter by remarking of the latter hon. member:—

Even the laws of geography on this occasion have not been respected by him, when he recommends us to send our fleet in two particular directions, one to the coast of Poland and the other to the borders of the Caucasus.

But was not Shakespeare a little loose in his geography? Be that as it may, Mr. Gladstone defended with gusto the action of the Government with regard to the extension of the Greek and Montenegrin frontiers; and gave the Sultan and his advisers this emphatic warning:—

The change that has been made is this—that the Ottoman Government begins to understand that while we are bona fide desirous of avoiding the difficulties and complications that might arise from the breaking up of the Turkish Empire, yet the tolerable discharge of the duties of the Government towards the subjects of Turkey is no longer a secondary but is a primary object, and that unless Turkey is prepared to discharge those duties in at least a tolerable manner, of which I am sorry to say we have not as yet had sufficient evidence, the integrity and independence of the Turkish Empire must learn to shift for themselves (Loud cheers).

Answering the hon. member for Carlisle, the Prime Minister in conclusion said the Administration would be the last in the world to resort to force unless as a final resource to uphold our treaty obligations, and that every case would be considered "with a due sense of our responsibility to Parliament and the people of this country."

The legislative machine, including the cog-wheel of the Lords, worked with habitual rapidity as the end of the Session drew near. Some friction was observable when Mr. Parnell vainly proposed, on the 3rd inst., to tack on to the Appropriation Bill the second measure which the Lords had rejected—the bill for the Registration of Irish Voters. Mr. Forster was even moved to say that the House of Lords must not be surprised if the frequent repetition of such action were to lead people to consider whether some change in the constitution of that House were not necessary. Sir Stafford Northcote protested against this remark. But later on Mr. T. P. O'Connor took up the theme and moved the reduction of the vote for the Upper House by the amount of Lord Redesdale's salary. This gave Sir William Harcourt an opportunity for making a stinging attack on their Lordships' Chairman of Committees, while objecting to his financial punishment. Mr. Bright, however, suggested that Lord Beaconsfield was as great an offender as Lord Redesdale. The motion was negatived by 81 to 18 votes. And the sitting closed with an exciting episode—the suspension for disorderly behaviour of Mr. Callan, whose profuse apology was accepted the following day.

The Commons having re-amended the Employers' Liability Bill by the restoration of the clause rendering employers liable for accidents happening to their workmen when under the control of a foreman; and by extending the period for the operation of the bill to seven instead of two years; their Lordships sanctioned the measure as amended yesterday week. The Ground Game Bill was also so far changed by the Commons that the close time for hares and rabbits was abandoned, and, on the Home Secretary's motion, the right to shoot ground game was extended to one other person besides the occupier, in lieu of being restricted to the occupier or one other person. These amendments were agreed to on Saturday by the Lords. Thereafter, Earl Granville said the Bill for the Registration of Irish Voters would be reintroduced early next Session; and the noble Earl mollified Lord Redesdale with the explanation that Mr. Forster's language in reference to the House of Lords had been misconstrued, and that the Secretary for Ireland had but expressed his own individual ideas in what he had said. Their Lordships had on Monday a brief sitting to pass the Appropriation Bill.

On Tuesday last the Speaker was accompanied to the bar of the House of Lords by Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Bright, Lord Hartington, Mr. Childers, Sir Charles Dilke, and several other members. The Royal Commissioners (the Lord Chancellor, Earl Sydney, the Earl of Kenmare, the Earl of Cork, and the Earl of Kimberley) signified in the usual way her Majesty's assent to a final series of measures. Upon Lord Selborne it then devolved to read, in the Queen's "own words,"

HER MAJESTY'S SPEECH.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,—

It is with satisfaction that I find myself at length enabled to release you from your arduous labours.

I continue to receive assurances of the most friendly character from all foreign Powers.

The failure of the Sublime Porte to execute, according to its engagement, a plan which was agreed upon in April last for the determination of the Ottoman frontier lying towards Montenegro has caused unfortunate delays in the settlement of that question, and the Treaty of Berlin has not yet taken effect in other points of importance which remained open at the commencement of the Session.

The Governments which were parties to that Treaty have communicated to the Sultan their judgment on the means of bringing to a satisfactory settlement the Greek and Montenegrin Frontier questions, on the administrative organisation of the European provinces of Turkey, and on the principal reforms required in the Asiatic provinces inhabited by Armenians.

For the attainment of the objects in view I continue to place reliance on the fact that the concert of Europe has been steadily maintained in regard to the Eastern Question, and that the Powers which signed the Treaty of Berlin are pressing upon the Sublime Porte, with all the authority which belongs to their united action, the measures which, in their belief, are best calculated to ensure tranquillity in the east.

I have not been unmindful during the few months which have elapsed since I last addressed you of the considerations which I have stated would guide my policy on the north-western frontier of my Indian Empire. Measures have already been taken for the complete military evacuation of Northern Afghanistan, and some progress has been made towards the pacification and settlement of the country.

A renewal of hostilities by the Afghans, under Ayoub Khan, has rendered necessary further military operations in Southern Afghanistan. The prompt measures taken by the Government of India for the relief of the garrison of Candahar, and the conspicuous ability and energy displayed by my officers and troops in the execution of those measures, resulting in the brilliant victory recently gained by the gallant force under the command of Sir Frederick Roberts, will, I trust, speedily bring to an honourable termination the war in that division of the country.

I regret that it has not hitherto been possible to give you such information on the general state of Indian Finance, and the recent miscarriages in presenting the accounts of military expenditure, as you would justly require before entering on a practical consideration of the subject. You may, however, rest assured that I shall redeem my pledge to supply you with this information at the earliest period in my power.

No advance has recently been made in the project of the South African Confederation, nor could advantage arise from endeavours to press it forward, except in proportion to the favourable movement of public opinion in that portion of the Empire. The general state of affairs in South Africa is, however, on the whole, satisfactory, except in Basutoland, where I trust that a moderate and conciliatory policy may allay the agitation caused by the enforcement of the Disarmament Act.

GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,—

I tender you my thanks for the liberal provision which you have made to meet the charges of the public service.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,—

I acknowledge, with thankfulness to the Almighty, the happy continuance, during several weeks, of fine weather for securing a harvest which gives in many places a reasonable promise of abundance. I am thus enabled to anticipate both a further revival of trade and some addition to the revenue of the country for the year; and I dwell with especial pleasure upon the probable improvement in the condition of the people of Ireland, who have so seriously suffered from previous failure of the crops.

I rejoice also to observe that, notwithstanding the lateness of the period at which you began your labours, your indefatigable zeal and patience have enabled you to add to the Statute Book some valuable laws.

I refer particularly to your settlement of the long-contested questions relating to the subject of burials, to the Education Act, and the Act for the better determining the Liability of Employers; and to these I would add the Act relating to Ground Game, the repeal of the Malt Duty, the Savings Banks Act, and the Post-Office Money Orders Act, and the measures for bettering the condition of merchant seamen, and providing for the safer carriage of grain cargoes.

I trust that these measures may, under Divine providence, contribute to the welfare and prosperity of my people.

The Speaker, on his return to the Lower House, read the Queen's Speech in his turn; and, with a faint replica on his face of the bright smile with which the right hon. gentleman reassumed at the opening of the Session the ungrateful task of presiding over the deliberations of the Commons, Mr. Brand cordially shook hands with the Prime Minister and his colleagues, and the remaining members; and Parliament separated—nominally till the 24th of November next.

THE MIRIDITES OF ALBANIA.

It has been announced this week, from Constantinople, that the Porte has intimated to the foreign Ambassadors there its success in persuading the Albanians to consent to give up the town and seaport of Dulcigno to Montenegro. The allied squadrons have assembled at Ragusa for the proposed naval demonstration to enforce this resolution of the Berlin Conference. We may soon expect news of some interest concerning the matter in question.

The Roman Catholics who inhabit Northern and, in even greater number, Central Albania, belong to the clans of Tribitshi, Hoti, Castrati, Posripa, Scialla, Skoki, Proli, Busa Huit, and to the great tribe of the Miridites, settled in the Orosch mountains, numbering in all over 150,000 souls. It will be remembered how, last year, the Porte, under Italy's auspices, proposed to Montenegro the exchange of Gussinje and Plava for other districts, chiefly populated by Albanians of the Christian variety. The tribes concerned in this proposed transaction are the Gruda, settled to the south-eastwards of Podgoritz—a the Hoti, consisting of three clans or Bayraks (standards), living in the Bay of Hoti upon Lake Scutari; and the Clementi, two thirds of whom are Roman Catholics. It was obvious to anyone acquainted with the country and its people that so haughty and warlike a clan as the Hoti would not yield up any part of its territory to Montenegro, which it utterly abhors, without vehement resistance. It was no less manifest that the Hoti, Gruda, and Clementi, in such a struggle with the Montenegrins, which could not fail to be popular throughout all the tribes of Northern Albania, would not only be able to reckon upon the support of all the other Catholic clans, small and large, but upon that of the Mussulman Geghes as well. As we have seen, the matter has developed itself in strict accordance with these provisions. During last summer Prenk Bib Doda, the Miridite Prince, was observed occupying a position, side by side with the troops of the League, in the action of Albania against Montenegro. The understanding between the Albanian Mussulmans and their Roman Catholic countrymen is practically achieved, and with it a mighty step has been taken towards the establishment of an Albanian nationality.

Our Illustration, which is copied from a photograph by Alia, of Semlin, represents a few of the Miridite Chiefs and Captains, but not their Prince above-named. Colonel Nicoli Bairaktar, of Fosedi, is standing beside an Austrian visitor, Lieutenant von Zubovitz, of the Honved Cavalry, who has won a European reputation by his famous riding feat on the road from Vienna to Paris, and still better, his performance of saving 150 lives in the inundation of the Danube at Szegedin. He is here shown dressed simply in shirt and trousers of European fashion, having thrown off his coat on account of the heat; while the other persons are in their national military costume. Their names are Mustafa Ajasi, Plak or Chief of Luria, Per Deda, of Spacs, Capitan Marcoduzzi, Marco Dieta, Plak of Little Ochrida, Marco Topali and Pieter Djozzi, Plaks of Orosch, Colonel Prenga and Djok Prenga, the Stra-plaks of Orosch, Capitan Ded Tuzzi, Marco Noz, Plak of Spacs, and the Secretaries, Lorenzo Purocochi and Stern. It would seem likely that some of these people are of Italian descent; but the Mustafa, who is the man standing at the left hand side in our engraving, should be a converted Mussulman. They are quite equal to the Mohammedans of Albania in spirit and prowess, as well as in capacity for managing their own affairs.

TERRIBLE COLLIERY DISASTER.

Early on Wednesday morning a terrible colliery explosion occurred at the Seaham Pit, near Sunderland. More than 200 men were down in the pit at the time. Every effort was at once made to reach the imprisoned men. The Central News correspondent telegraphs:—"The Seaham Colliery, at which the explosion occurred, belongs to Lord Londonderry, who is now staying at Seaham. According to one of the officials at the pit's mouth, 182 men and boys descended the pit last night, and the gravest anxiety is felt on account of 165 who have not yet been reached. The explosion originated in No. 2 pit, and from thence travelled to No. 3 and No. 1 pits, blocking up all three shafts. An exploring party descended the pit and found that 17 men were safe; but it was found impossible to get to the other men in the pit. Mr. Bell, the Mines Inspector, was speedily on the spot and in conference with the mining authorities."

A later telegram states:—"Every attempt is being made to get the shafts into working order and to penetrate into the pits. The gravest apprehensions, however, are entertained as to the ultimate success of these relief operations."

The shafts are completely wrecked. Exploring parties cannot proceed far into the pit. There is no fire whatever in the pit, but a second explosion is feared.

Three men were brought up out of the main seam at a quarter to one on Wednesday afternoon. Their names are George Thompson, George Wilson, and Ralph Warlow. One of them was much exhausted. Thompson says they heard the explosion at 2.20. There were nineteen men in that seam. After the explosion they made their way with difficulty to the

HOME NEWS.

Lord Haddington was on the 1st inst. installed at Kelso as Provincial Grand Master of Roxburghshire and Berwickshire.

The triennial meeting of the Calvinistic Methodists of North Wales and Lancashire was held last week at Bangor.

The Rev. H. O. Middleton, has given £300 to the National Society in addition to his annual subscription of £300.

Lord Sandon yesterday unveiled the statue of Sir A. B. Walker in the Liverpool Art-Gallery which bears his name. The cost has been subscribed by the people of Liverpool.

Harvest Home at the Philanthropic Society's Farm School at Redhill was celebrated on the 1st inst., when the prizes were distributed, Mr. Charles Lyell, the treasurer, presiding,

The Earl of Belmore has resigned his seat as one of the Commissioners on the Board of Intermediate Education for Ireland.

On Monday the Dorchester Town Council resolved to undertake the utilisation of the sewage of the town upon the system in operation at Aylesbury.

The portrait of Mr. Mark Firth, painted for the Testimonial Committee by Mr. Ouseley, A.R.A., has been placed in the old banqueting-room at Cutlers' Hall, Sheffield.

The Mersey Docks and Harbour Board, at a meeting held on the 2nd inst., decided to enter on the construction of further dock works at the north end of the port, at a cost of £400,000.

An Admiralty return, shows that the receipts of naval prize, bounty, salvage, and other moneys during the year ended March 31 last, amounted to £58,780, out of this sum only £6594 was paid, leaving a balance of £52,186.

Most of the Medical Schools in connection with the metropolitan hospitals will be opened for the winter session on Friday, Oct. 1, but in some of them the opening day will be on Monday, Oct. 4.

A rifle contest for prizes of the value of several hundred pounds was held on Tuesday, at the Wimbledon ranges, the competitors, about one hundred in number, being members of the 7th Surrey Rifles, or Southwark Volunteers.

The Presidency of the Jurisprudence Department at the Social Science Congress has been accepted by the Right Hon. John McLaren, Lord Advocate. The Congress will be held at Edinburgh, from Oct. 6 to 13.

An art and industrial exhibition on an extensive scale, promoted by a number of gentlemen resident in Manchester and the district, has been opened in the Agricultural Hall of the Pomona Palace, Manchester.

Recent numbers of *House and Home*, now the organ of the Working Men's Club movement, are full of useful and readable matter, including valuable suggestions on sanitary subjects and questions of household management.

Countess Brownlow on Tuesday afternoon opened at Whitchurch an exhibition of oil and water-colour paintings, engravings, photographs, statuary, varvings, plate armour, embroidery, and a great number of other articles of general, artistic, and antiquarian interest.

The Board of Trade Returns for August have been issued. They show the declared value of imports for the month to have been £31,019,087, an increase of £2,684,078 over August, 1879, and of £1,912,261 over the corresponding period of 1878.

A new chapel, dedicated to St. Mark, at St. Columba's College, near Dublin, was last week opened by the Archbishop of Dublin. The greater portion of the cost, which amounts to nearly £7000, has been contributed by the trustees of the late Marshal Beresford's fund.

Mr. Richard Lewis, barrister on the Western Circuit, has presented to the School of Art being formed in Exeter Poussin's "Æneas and Achates meeting Venus on an unknown shore." The picture was brought to England at the commencement of the present century by Lord Strathnairn, who bought it in France for £1000.

The work of the British Association was concluded at Swansea on the 1st inst. None of the sections met. The number of tickets sold amounted to 915. The usual complimentary votes were passed to the president and other officers at the concluding meeting, and grants to the amount of £1010 were made for scientific research during the next year.

The King of the Belgians has made the following appointments to the Order of Leopold:—Sir Francis W. Truscott-Lord Mayor, to be Commander; Alderman Sir William Lawrence, Sir Thomas Gabriel, and Sir Andrew Lusk, Bart., to be officers; and Sheriffs Woolloton and E. Kelly Bayley, to be knights.

The scheme which was recently mentioned in the House of Commons by Mr. Fawcett for the encouragement of small deposits in Post-office Savings Banks, by allowing twelve postage-stamps affixed to a form provided for the purpose to be received as a deposit of a shilling, is to come into operation on Monday next, the 13th inst. The counties in which the scheme is to be experimentally tried are Cardigan, Cumberland, Kent, Leicester, Norfolk, and Somerset, in England and Wales; Down and Waterford, in Ireland; and Aberdeen and Ayr, in Scotland. The necessary forms will be supplied gratuitously at any post-office in these counties, and deposits will be received at any post-office in these counties at which there is a savings bank.

A sum of £1000 has been awarded to the London Hospital by the Rector and churchwardens of the City parish of St. Edmund the King and Martyr out of surplus funds of a charity belonging to the parish of which they are the trustees. The Charity Commissioners had given their assent to the proposed benefaction.

On Tuesday the Brighton Board of Guardians, by a large majority, adopted a circular memorial to the Education Department asking for a repeal of those sections of the Act which compel school attendance between the ages of twelve and fourteen years of age in cases where the requisite standards have not been passed.

The total number of paupers in the metropolis (exclusive of lunatics in asylums and vagrants) on the last day of last week was 82,288, of whom 45,983 were in workhouses, and 36,305 received outdoor relief. As compared with the corresponding totals in each of the three preceding years, these figures show an increase of 1131, 5604, and 5259 respectively.

A meeting, organised by the Home-Rule clubs, was held on Sunday afternoon in Hyde Park, for the purpose of protesting against the rejection of the Irish Compensation for Disturbance Bill and the Irish Registration Bill by the House of Lords, and of demanding a reform in the constitution of the Upper Chamber. There was much confusion.

Last Saturday the seventh annual collection, known as "Hospital Saturday," in aid of the hospitals and dispensaries of the metropolis, was held, and it resulted in a substantial sum being realised. More than 400 lady collectors were in charge of boxes in different parts of London. An instrumental concert in behalf of the fund was given in Victoria Park, in the presence of upwards of 6000 persons.

It is officially announced that preparations are being made for the intended distribution of the amount awarded to the officers and crew of her Majesty's ship Vulture, for services against pirates on Oct. 11, 1878, and that all persons having any just and legal claim are requested to transmit such particulars to the Registrar of the Admiralty Division of her Majesty's High Court of Justice.

Last Saturday afternoon a new café and restaurant was opened at the Lambeth Baths and Washhouses by the Coffee Public-houses National Society—the chair being occupied by Mr. Stephen Bourne.—Mr. Benjamin Whitworth, M.P., on Saturday afternoon opened a permanent coffee-stall situated on ground belonging to the Metropolitan Railway Company at their Swiss-cottage Station.

The Institut de Droit International has held its fifth annual Congress in Oxford this week. The meeting has been attended by some of the most eminent Continental and English jurists. The Right Hon. M. Bernard was chosen president, and Dr. Neumann, of Vienna, and Dr. Bluntschli, of Heidelberg, vice-presidents. M. Rivière, of Brussels, was re-elected general secretary, and M. Alberic Rollin, of Ghent, secretary.

A Home for Roman Catholic boys—the first of its kind established in the metropolis—was on Monday opened for the reception of inmates. It is situated at 41, Queen-square, Bloomsbury, and has been mainly founded by the Patronage Committee of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. It is intended that employers of labour, in want of a lad of good character for office, shop, or as an apprentice, shall be able to find one at the Home.

Consent was given at a meeting of the City Commission of Sewers on Tuesday to the erection at the Royal Exchange of a bronze statue of the late Sir Rowland Hill. A communication had been received from the Lord Mayor, as chairman of the Rowland Hill Memorial Committee, asking the sanction of the commission to the proposed erection. The statue is to be placed in the open space at the south-east corner of the Royal Exchange, facing Cornhill.

AGRICULTURE.

The show of the Royal Manchester, Liverpool, and North Lancashire Agricultural Society, which was opened on Thursday, the 2nd inst., at Crewe, was a great success, regarded from every point of view. The total amount given in prizes this year was £2200, about £1000 less than was offered at Manchester last year, but the same as was given the year before at Lancaster. The entries were not quite so numerous as were those of last year, this being discernible chiefly in machinery, slightly in stock, and also in dogs; but in the cheese classes the competition was very keen, as Crewe is in the heart of a great cheese-producing county. The prize for four Cheshire cheeses above 60 lb. in weight was taken by Mr. Jabez Hart, of Bickley, who also won the first prize for four cheeses above 40 lb. weight, made in 1879, and also took the society's gold medal for the best lot of cheese exhibited. For the first time in the history of this society, prizes were offered for essays written on the subject of the best means of making cheese. The Earl of Ellesmere won the first prize in the class for bulls above three years old with Attractive Lord, a magnificent roan and white animal; and Mr. William Handley, of Greenhead, Milnthorpe, won the first prize in the class for bulls above two years with Master Harbinger. There was a capital show of dairy cows, honours being carried off, among others, by Mr. Henry Fawcett, of Otley; Mr. T. H. Hutchinson, of Manor House, Catterick; Mr. Jonathan Peel, of Clitheroe, and Mr. Brierley, of Prestwich. The Jersey cows were greatly admired, the judges commanding the entire class above three years old. In the sheep and pig classes there were some useful animals. Mr. Joseph Sedgwick, of Lambrigg Kendall, took all the honours in the classes for Leicesters, Lincolns, and Cots-wolds. The Earl of Ellesmere carried all before him in the classes for pigs, taking six first prizes. Yesterday week the judging of the light and heavy horses was completed. Not much could be said for the latter. There was a good show of light horses. Mr. Webster, of Northallerton, took first prize with a black horse between seven and eight years old. If Meteor, belonging to the Stand Stud Company, Manchester, a firm which took several honours, had been a little more perfect in his hocks the awards might have been transposed. The first-prize cob, Sir Edward, is a handsome brown two-year-old. The quality of hunters up to 12st. was excellent, Mr. Watkinson's Hard Lines, the prize-winner, being a fine old-fashioned hunter of handsome colour and appearance.

A luncheon was held during Thursday afternoon in the show-yard, at which were present the president, the Hon. Wilbraham Egerton, M.P., the Earl of Ellesmere, Lord Crewe, Lord Tollemache, Baron von Schroeder, the Hon. W. F. Tollemache, M.P., Sir Phillip Egerton, M.P., the Mayors of Chester and Crewe, and a large number of agriculturists. The president, in giving "Prosperity to the Royal Manchester, Liverpool, and North Lancashire Agricultural Society," referred at some length to the agricultural depression of late years, and then, turning to the present time, said it was a period of hopeful anticipations, of which agriculturists should make the best by abandoning old and antiquated systems of agriculture for those more in accordance with the age. Referring to Messrs. Read and Pell's report on agriculture in America and Canada, he said the one thing which appeared to strike the Commission

was the intense energy of American farmers, and the facility which they showed in adopting the newest inventions. These things, he said, were worthy of our admiration and imitation. He congratulated Cheshire farmers on the splendid show of cheese, and said that the future of the dairy was evidently a hopeful one for farmers.

The two days' annual exhibition of the Derbyshire Agricultural and Horticultural Society was concluded at Derby on the 2nd inst., having been a success both as regards entries of competitors and attendance of the public. Upwards of £800 was given in prizes, and among the winners were the Master of Blantyre, the Earl of Harrington, the Hon. E. K. W. Coke, and Lord Vernon. The poultry show was the largest the society has ever had, while of the hunters and two-year-old geldings, the judges, two "Royal" men, say they were the best they have ever seen at any provincial show.

In conjunction with a grand flower display, the annual show of the Warwickshire Agricultural Society took place at Leamington on Tuesday. The dinner was presided over by Lord Leigh, Lord Lieutenant of the county; and amongst those present were Lord Norton, the members for the northern division of the county, Messrs. C. N. Newdegate and Mr. Davenport Bromley, and Sir John Eardley Wilmot, Bart., and the Hon. Gilbert Leigh, the representatives of the southern division. One of the judges referred to the reluctance with which the prizes in the shorthorn classes had been awarded to the Marquis of Exeter, and expressed an opinion that his Lordship should restrict himself to the national shows, and not compete with tenant farmers. The sentiment was warmly endorsed.

Colonel Henning, C.B., presided on Tuesday afternoon in the Dorchester Townhall at the thirty-fourth annual meeting of the Weymouth and Dorchester Labouring Classes Association. There was an excellent show of garden produce in the Corn Exchange, the onions and potatoes being especially good. Colonel Henning distributed the prizes.

A committee of Kentish tenant farmers has drawn up a report to be presented to Mr. Little. The report deals with the burden of rates on the agricultural interest, the working of the Education Act, tenant-right, restrictive covenants, corn averages, the Tithe Commutation Act, and distrant for rent.

BALLOONING.

A simultaneous ascent of balloons, under the auspices of the recently-formed Balloon Society of Great Britain, took place last Saturday. According to the programme, eight balloons were to go up at five o'clock from an equal number of points within a radius of about ten miles from St. Paul's Cathedral, a medal being promised to the aeronaut who, descending in an hour and half, should have travelled the greatest distance. The weather could hardly have been more favourable for the novel experiment.

It was found impossible to carry out the original arrangements in their entirety. The War Office balloon, which was to have been sent up from Woolwich, was, unfortunately, detained at Dungeness; and, owing to failure in the gas supply, no ascent was found possible from the Welsh Harp at Hendon or from Lillie-bridge. From the remaining five stations—viz., the Alexandra Palace, Crystal Palace, Clapham Rink, Epping Forest, and North Woolwich Gardens—successful ascents were made. The result, broadly stated, seems to have been that the balloons, starting from different points and attaining various altitudes, were irresistibly carried in the same north-north-easterly direction.

The first balloon to ascend was that in charge of Mr. Orton, from the Forest Hotel, Chingford. He left the earth at three minutes to five o'clock, carrying one passenger, and after a pleasant voyage reached terra firma at Ashton, three miles from Matlock Station, on the Great Eastern Railway. The balloon was in the air one hour and twenty-five minutes, the maximum altitude attained being about 3000 ft.

Mr. Wright's Owl, which requires over 30,000 cubic feet for the purpose of inflation, went up from the Crystal Palace at a quarter past five. There were four occupants of the car, one of them being Commander Cheyne, R.N., and another an American tourist. This balloon passed over the Thames and the east end of London, and proceeded, by way of Barking, Ilford, Chipping Ongar, and Dunmow, to Little Bardfield, two miles from Halstead, Essex, where it came down. After lowering his grapnel, Mr. Wright observed that he was about to catch some telegraph-wires; and he cut away the cable without a moment's hesitation—an exhibition of courage and presence of mind which procured for himself and his passengers a severer shaking than even visitors to cloudband always expect when returning to mother earth.

Mr. Barber went up from the Alexandra Palace, and landed at Berdon, in Essex, a distance of about thirty-four miles. Mr. Bucknall Smith, who ascended with him, took observations with standard instruments. The balloon was only in the air one hour and five minutes, owing to the approach of darkness, combined with condensation of the gas and an insufficiency of ballast for much manoeuvring; and the descent from an elevation of 2500 feet was accomplished in less than two minutes.

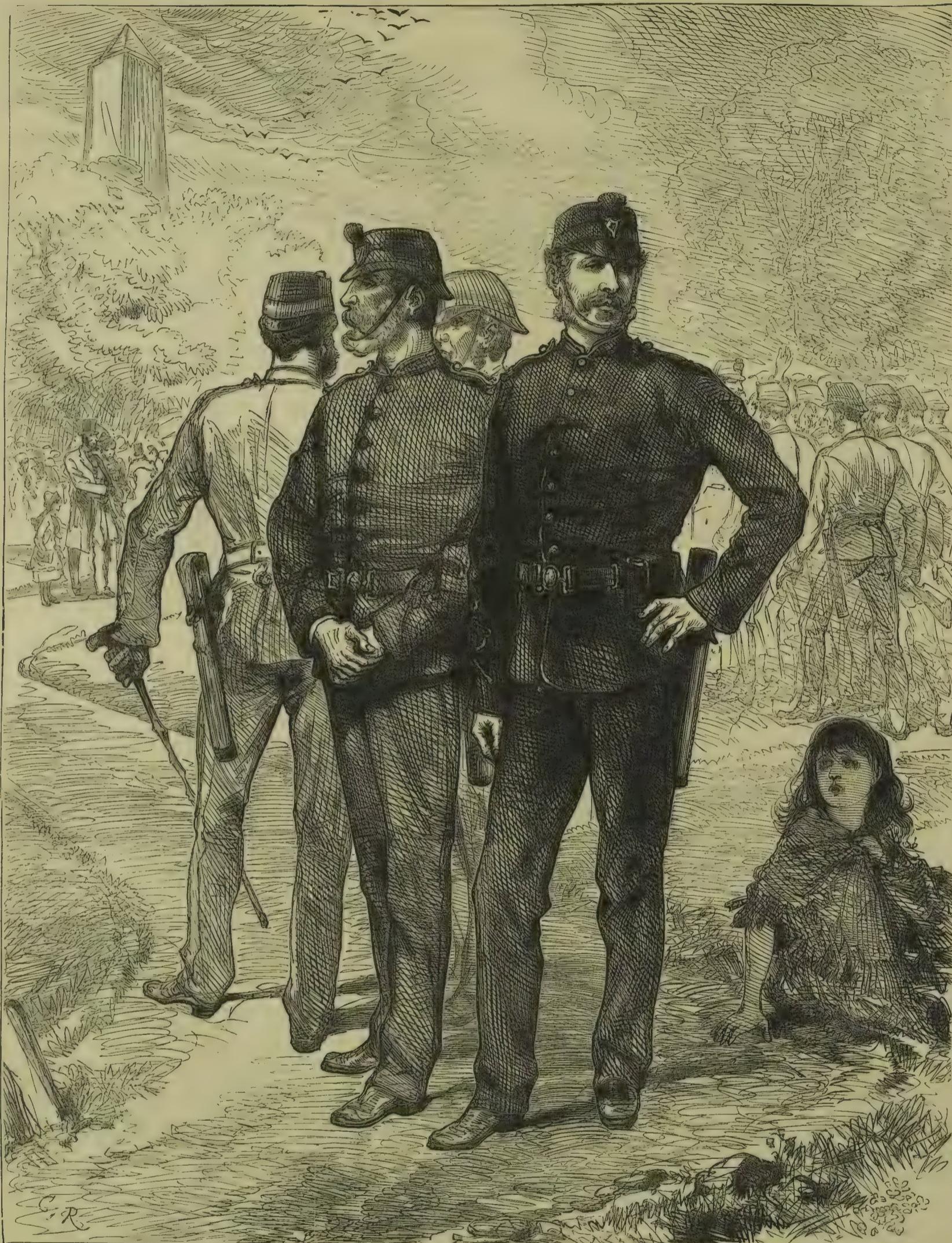
Mr. Simmons left the Clapham Rink with a balloon containing 26,000 ft. of gas, and lifting 990 lb. He had a particularly interesting trip, passing over the Thames at Westminster, where he heard Big Ben strike five, and being at a sufficiently low altitude when crossing Moorgate-street to speak to persons below. From this point he was carried by the same current, which appears to have been equally potent with his competitors, northward, along the course of the River Lea. Mr. Simmons descended at Widdington, Essex, a distance somewhat under fifty miles. He claims to have attained the maximum altitude of 14,300 ft., at which he found the temperature to be as low as 39 deg.

Mr. Jackson, a veteran, ascended, with one passenger, in a balloon of 30,000 cubic feet, from North Woolwich Gardens, at seven minutes after five, descending in safety at 6.40 p.m. at Three Chimneys Farm, Ridgewell, Halstead, Essex, a distance of more than fifty miles from the starting point, the maximum altitude attained having been 6250 ft.

The aeronauts and their passengers and the friends of both met on Sunday afternoon at the Grand Hotel, Charing-cross, to exchange congratulations and compare notes. Mr. W. H. Lefevre, president of the Balloon Society of Great Britain, occupied the chair. Votes of thanks were passed to Colonel Noble, R.A., Major Duncan, R.A., Mr. Gordon, and other gentlemen, whose co-operation had helped to secure a successful result.

At three points observations were taken by non-commissioned officers of the Royal Artillery, those recorded at Shooter's-hill being the most complete and useful.

The War Office, in consideration of the importance of ballooning in connection with military affairs, had decided to detail a company of the Royal Engineers for instruction in the art. The winter, being unfavourable to ascents, is to be devoted to experiments in the manufacture of gas.



IRISH CONSTABULARY.

The Royal Irish Constabulary, established by Act of Parliament in 1814, has been, since 1846, maintained wholly at the expense of the central Government, except a moiety of the cost of additional police force applied for by the magistrates of any county or district, or stationed there by order of the Lord Lieutenant. Its ordinary strength, officers and men, somewhat exceeds 11,000, not including the Dublin metropolitan police. The vote proposed in the House of Commons on Thursday, the 26th ult., of the sum of £1,134,000 to provide for this Irish Constabulary force was resisted by some of the Home-Rule party. It was made the occasion for absurdly and offensively detaining the House all through the night and till the afternoon of the next day. But no one will deny the right of any Irish member to criticise the organisation of that force; and the objections that were taken, not for the first time, to its semi-military character might be allowed some weight in

times of less danger to the public peace. It appeared, however, from the statements of the Chief Secretary for Ireland, that the constables, though trained in the use of arms and furnished with them to be used in case of need, are not accustomed to bear them in ordinary police service or to display them for the purpose of intimidation. Their usual appearance and action is that of a civil force, resembling the police of England, as is shown in our Illustration this week; they are not generally seen carrying rifles and bayonets, or swords, but with the simple truncheon familiarly known in our London streets. The few occasions that have called for their employment in more formidable guise were notoriously for the dispersion of furious party mobs, whether of Orangemen or Catholics, who were fighting against each other about some obnoxious politico-religious processions. The police, in these instances, fired charges of buck-shot, each cartridge holding thirteen shot,

instead of bullets. Mr. W. E. Forster cited a return of the people killed and wounded by the police during the year. "The police had fired on four occasions—once in Galway, when no one was hurt; once in Meath, when the result was the same. These were on agrarian occasions. The two other cases were at Coal Island, in Tyrone, where two men were wounded, and at Dungannon, where one man was killed and others wounded. These were party riots in the North. There had been, he was glad to say, no life lost through agrarian rioting. As to the Lurgan case, the magistrate who gave the order to fire was a resident magistrate, who was a Roman Catholic. Thirty-four rounds were fired; nine were bullets. It appeared that the reason of there being bullets was that the buck-shot cartridges would not fit some of the rifles. The number of persons wounded was sixteen. He could not conceive any officer of the police not feeling that there should be every precaution adopted against taking life."

THE LATE REV. G. M. GORDON.

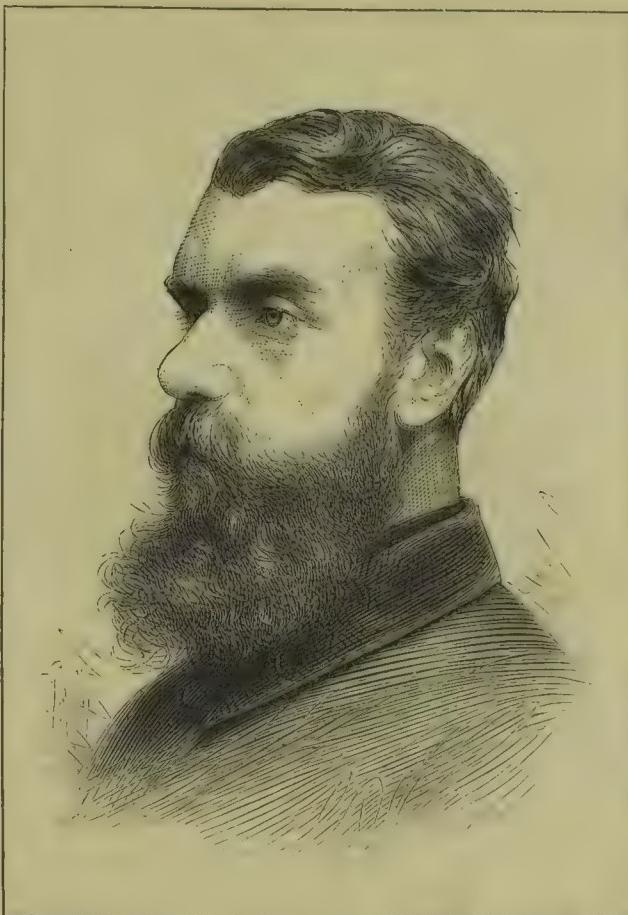
In noticing the late Rev. G. M. Gordon, who was killed in the recent sortie from Candahar, the *Record* says that he wrote several interesting missionary letters, especially two from Candahar, which appeared in that paper a few weeks ago. It adds:—“We have not heard from him since the disaster which befel the brigade of General Burrows, but his reference to the disaffection of the Wali’s Candahar troops and the Ghazis, as well as to their fanatical hatred to the English, prepared us for the mutinous spirit they evinced as soon as they approached Ayoub Khan’s army. The Rev. George Maxwell Gordon was the younger of the two sons of the late Captain Gordon, R.N. (some time M.P. for Dundalk), by Barbara, the sister of the late Abel Smith, of Woodhall Park, M.P. for Hertfordshire, and also of the late Hon. Mrs. Leslie Melville, mother of the bereaved Mrs. Henry Wright, of Hampstead. The occasion of his determining to offer himself to the Church Missionary Society was a visit which he made to the Holy Land, and in 1866 he became a missionary at his own charges, first as chaplain at Madras till 1871 under Bishop Gell. He then came home for a short time to recruit his health, but soon returned to the north of India, when the present Bishop French was principal of the C.M.S. School at Lahore. During the Persian famine Mr. Gordon was very energetically and usefully employed, but his head-quarters were at Pind Dadur Khan. Last year he accompanied the army in its advance towards Candahar.”

The portrait is from a photograph by Messrs. Elliott and Fry.

THE AFGHAN WAR.

The expected battle in the neighbourhood of Candahar, with the not less certain defeat of Ayoub Khan by General Sir F. Roberts, took place on Wednesday last week, the 1st inst., and will prove, as we hope, the final conflict of our unprofitable and unjustifiable war in Afghanistan. The Afghan army led to Candahar by Ayoub Khan seems to have been composed, in fair proportion, of the native soldiery of the three provinces—namely, Cabul, Candahar, and Herat, of which the dominions of the late Ameer hitherto consisted. They had spontaneously gathered, under the command of some of their local and tribal chieftains, to rally round the standard of national independence, which was represented by those who still remained of the Barukzai family of princes, so recently deposed by British conquest. It cannot, therefore, be denied that the cause for which our enemies made a last desperate fight on Wednesday week had sufficient legitimate warrant of patriotism, and of natural equity, to forbid our now indulging any sentiment of vindictiveness against them. The Afghans are a brave, proud, and warlike nation, to whom the liberty of their country, which has never been permanently subdued by any foreign power, is as dear as that of Switzerland ever was to the peasant warriors of the Alpine Forest Cantons. They were further animated by a very excusable zeal for the Moslem religion to which they belong. It has nevertheless been their fortune to suffer complete defeat; and we only trust that this event will henceforth be overruled for the more secure and peaceful settlement of affairs in all the countries bordering on our Indian Empire.

The full story of Ayoub Khan’s defeat is as follows:—The army reached Robat, seventeen miles from Candahar, on the 28th ult. General Roberts, justly considering that his men required repose after their great exertions of the last twenty days, halted on the 29th. He then made Candahar by two easy marches, arriving there on the 31st ult. On the afternoon of the 31st a bold reconnaissance of the enemy’s position was made by the whole of the Cavalry Brigade, accompanied by Colonel Chapman, Chief of the Staff. The fire of the enemy was drawn in all directions, and their positions accurately discovered. The Cavalry retired late in the evening, covered by the 15th Sikhs, under a heavy fire. The 3rd, or Macgregor’s Brigade, held an advanced position for the night. The enemy’s position was found to be as follows:—Their camp was pitched behind the screen of a high-banked ridge of hills, extending from



THE LATE REV. G. M. GORDON, KILLED AT CANDAHAR.

near the Argandab in a north-easterly direction. The western extremity of this ridge is called Pir-Paimal. There are two passes through this ridge from Candahar—the Baba Wali and the Murcha. The first is easy, but it was strongly held by the enemy, with several guns on its crest. The second, which was more difficult, was on the right of the position, and was covered by several parallel canals, derived from the Argandab, which, though

very dry at present, formed a most formidable obstacle. A detached hill, in the rear of the position, and separated from the outer ridge by gardens and orchards, further strengthened the enemy’s flank. Nevertheless, General Roberts decided to make this his point of attack, perceiving that if once the village of Pir-Paimal, at the foot of the hill of that name, were captured, his troops would take the whole position in flank, when a determined advance must roll up the whole of Ayoub’s line, and infallibly lose him his guns. Orders were accordingly given, assigning this operation to Hardy, with the Cabul Brigades, while the Baba Wali and Murcha Passes should be watched and menaced by the Candahar garrison, and the guns on the Baba Wali be silenced by the heavy battery. General Gough’s Cavalry was to act independently on the left, and cut off fugitives from the main attack. At nine a.m. the troops were in position, and at half-past ten a commanding village in front of the infantry had been stormed by the 92nd, the 2nd Goorkhas, and the regiments of the First Brigade, after being heavily shelled by Battery C 2 of the Royal Artillery and by the screw-gun Battery C 8 Royal Artillery. This brigade was then joined by the Second, or Baker’s, Brigade, and the two advanced along the line of the canals until they were lost to sight round the shoulder of Pir-Paimal. The fighting was severe during this advance and in taking the village of Pir-Paimal, but the Third Brigade (Macgregor’s) was in reserve to afford support if necessary. It was intended that the troops should halt for some time in Pir-Paimal and reconnoitre further; but the enemy showed continued confidence, and it was found advisable by Major-General Ross, who conducted the operation, to push on. The enemy resisted stoutly, and it was here that the principal loss was sustained. Two small advanced camps were then sighted and captured, together with some guns. After a brief struggle, the alarm caused by this success was communicated to Ayoub’s main camp further on, and a general flight ensued. Guns were captured by our troops at each step, and thirty-two had been taken before they drew breath at the village of Mazra, far beyond the Baba Wali Pass. Here General Ross halted his brigade at one p.m., further infantry pursuit being impossible and useless. As soon as General Roberts saw how matters were proceeding, he sent for the 3rd Bombay Cavalry and the 3rd Scinde Horse from the front of the Baba Wali Pass to Mazra, and ordered them

to carry on the pursuit for fifteen miles further. They met General Gough’s cavalry returning, and returned with them to Candahar. The cavalry pursued the fugitives in the direction of Khakrez, and killed between 200 and 300, seventy of whom fell to the sabres of the 3rd Punjab Cavalry in one place. They then swept round and met the Bombay Cavalry, as before mentioned. At the enemy’s main camp was found the lifeless body of poor Lieutenant Macclaine. Some Native soldiers, prisoners in Ayoub’s camp, reported that when the Afghans were about to fly, the guard at his tent called him out and deliberately murdered him. Remains of bread, which the poor fellow had been eating, his pipe, and other trifles were found in the tent half an hour later by Evan Smith. The First Brigade bivouacked for the night at the enemy’s camp, in charge of the captured guns, among which were the two Horse Artillery guns lost at Klushk-i-Nakhud. The rest of the troops returned to Candahar by the Baba Wali Pass, arriving at six p.m. When General Roberts, at the end of the action, rode up to the different regiments to thank them for their conduct, he was loudly cheered, showing how entirely he possesses the confidence and the affection of the troops.

Colonel Brownlow’s loss is deplored by the whole force, as that of one of the best and bravest soldiers who ever led a British regiment. Capt. Stratton had likewise rendered great service as the head of the Signalling Department from Char-Asiab up to his death. He was shot in the leg by a Ghazi as he was riding, almost unattended, to establish a heliograph station on the Baba Wali Kotal. His death was promptly avenged by a signaller of the 72nd.

The casualties were as follows:—72nd—killed, 7; wounded, 17. 92nd—killed, 11;



SKETCH MAP OF COUNTRY ON THE ARGANDAB RIVER, INCLUDING THE POSITION OF AYOUB KHAN, AND GENERAL SIR F. ROBERTS'S BATTLE-FIELD OF SEPT. 1.

wounded 51. 60th Rifles—wounded, 1. Native Regiments—killed, 11; wounded, 72. The officers killed were Colonel Brownlow and Captain Frome, both of the 72nd Regiment; and Captain Stratton, of the 22nd. The officers wounded were Captain Murray and Lieutenant Munro, of the 72nd; Lieutenants Menzies and Stewart, of the 92nd; Lieutenant-Colonel Battye, of the 2nd Goorkhas; and Major Slater of the 2nd Sikhs.

According to intelligence received on Tuesday from Candahar, all Ayoub Khan's guns were captured by General Roberts. The British cavalry is now at Kokoran, five miles west of the city. It is believed that Ayoub Khan has fled to Herat. The gates of Candahar have been reopened, and the inhabitants are returning. General Phayre's force, from Quetta, has been ordered to halt at a place two stages from Candahar, and part of it will at once return to Quetta. The hostile army, which lost about 1000 men, seems to be completely dispersed.

The total British loss in the battle with Ayoub Khan's forces amounts to 248 killed and wounded.

We refer to our Map of the Argandab Valley, in which the reader will find nearly every place above-mentioned—Mazra, the Baba Wali Pass (or Kotal), the Murcha (Kotal-i-Murche), Pir-Paimal, and the road westward to Khakrez. The battle was fought within six miles north-west of Candahar.

The Illustration we gave last week of the Camp of the 25th Regiment (King's Own Borderers) at Pezwan, was from a masterly and beautiful Sketch by Lieutenant Reynell Taylor, of that regiment, who is a son of Lieutenant-General Reynell Taylor, formerly in command on the Punjab frontier.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

The race-meetings which have taken place during the last few days at Warwick, Derby, and Sandown Park have possessed few features of general interest, though one or two of the events at Derby merit a passing word. The Champion Breeders' Foal Stakes, which was run for the first time, proved a great success, the original entry of 229 supplying a field of fourteen. The penalties which had been incurred by Simmel and Wandering Nun effectually stopped their success, but both ran prominently, the former finishing a good third to Amber Witch and a filly by Galopin—Adversity, the winner coming from Kingsclere with a great reputation, in spite of having disappointed the stable at Goodwood. Fordham rode three winners in succession on that afternoon, and once more just headed Archer in the list of successful jockeys. Exactly a score ran for the Hartington Plate, in which Charibert (10 st. 7 lb.) sustained his first defeat this season, the race falling to Glen Ronald (6 st. 13 lb.), a three-year-old brother to Prince Charlie, who was ridden by Kellett. Besides having such a crushing weight on his back, Charibert was greatly interfered with at a critical point of the struggle. The sport at Sandown Park on Tuesday and Wednesday was quite up to the average, but owing to so many people being out of town, the attendance was rather small.

There is still only a very limited market on the St. Leger, and it is rather difficult to compile a reliable list of the probable starters and jockeys on Wednesday next. However, the following may not be very wide of the mark:—Bend Or (Archer), Robert the Devil (Cannon), Abbot (Webb), Zealot (J. Osborne), Cipolata (Constable), Beauminet (Fordham), Jeeny Howlet (Snowden), Novice, and Napsbury; whilst amongst the doubtful division we must place Teviotdale, Mask, Retreat, and Ulster. Reports concerning Bend Or and Robert the Devil are as favourable as they can be, and it is impossible

to find anything capable of preventing them from running first and second, as they did in the Derby; whilst in spite of the fancy for Abbot, Zealot, and Cipolata, we incline to the chances of Beauminet or Novice to fill the third place.

Undoubtedly the great event of the week, in fact, we may almost say of the season, has been the cricket-match at Kennington Oval between England and Australia. The brilliant successes of the colonial team all over the country led to a very general desire that they should not return home without opposing a team really representative of England, and the most carping critic must admit that the eleven commanded by Lord Harris could scarcely have been improved upon. The only drawback to the match was the unfortunate absence of Spofforth, whose damaged hand still disables him from playing; and, as the loss of such a bowler can scarcely be over-estimated, it is not too much to say that, though England eventually won by five wickets, the honours of the match rest equally with the victors and the vanquished. Owing to the perfect state of the ground, it was essentially a batsman's game, and some splendid scoring took place. Where so many did well, it is almost inviolable to single out one or two for special mention; but W. G. Grace, through all his marvellous career, has never given a more brilliant exhibition. His power of placing the ball was as wonderful as ever, and he only gave one chance through his long innings. The Australians once more showed themselves unrivalled in playing an uphill game, no less than eighty-eight runs were compiled between the fall of their ninth and tenth wicket in their second innings, and Murdoch's performance eclipsed even Grace's, as he did not give the shadow of a chance, and carried his bat out.

We append the full score:—

ENGLAND.			AUSTRALIA.		
First innings.			Second innings.		
Dr. W. G. Grace, b Palmer	152	not out	9		
Dr. E. M. Grace, c Alexander, b Bannerman	36	b Boyle	0		
Mr. A. P. Lucas, b Bannerman	55	c Blackham, b Palmer	2		
Barnes, b Alexander	28	c Moule, b Boyle	5		
Lord Harris, c Bonner, b Alexander	52				
Mr. F. Penn, b Bonner	23	not out	27		
Mr. A. G. Steele, c Boyle, b Moule	42				
Hon. A. Lyttelton, not out	11	b Palmer	13		
Mr. G. F. Grace, c Bannerman, b Moule	0	b Palmer	0		
Shaw b Moule	0				
Morley, run out	2				
Extras	19	Extras	1		
Total	420	Total	57		

AUSTRALIA.			Second innings.		
First innings.			Second innings.		
W. L. Murdoch, c Barnes, b Steel	0	not out	153		
A. Bannerman, b Morley	32	c Lucas, b Shaw	8		
T. U. Groube, b Steel	11	c Shaw, b Morley	0		
P. S. M'Donnell, c Barnes, b Morley	27	l b w, b W. G. Grace	43		
J. Slight, c G. F. Grace, b Morley	11	c Harris, b W. G. Grace	0		
J. M. Blackham, c and b Morley	0	c E. M. Grace, b Morley	19		
G. J. Bonnor, c G. F. Grace, b Shaw	2	b Steel	16		
H. F. Boyle, not out	36	run out	3		
G. E. Palmer, b Morley	6	c and b Steel	4		
G. Alexander, c W. G. Grace, b Steel	6	c Shaw, b Morley	33		
W. H. Moule, c Morley, b W. G. Grace	6	b Barnes	31		
Extras	12	Extras	14		
Total	149	Total	327		

Upwards of 50,000 spectators entered the ground during the three days.

The close of the yacht-racing season finds the famous Vanduara at the head of the prize-winning list with fifteen prizes, valued at about £1150, to her credit. The Latona comes in a good second, with the Samcena close up.

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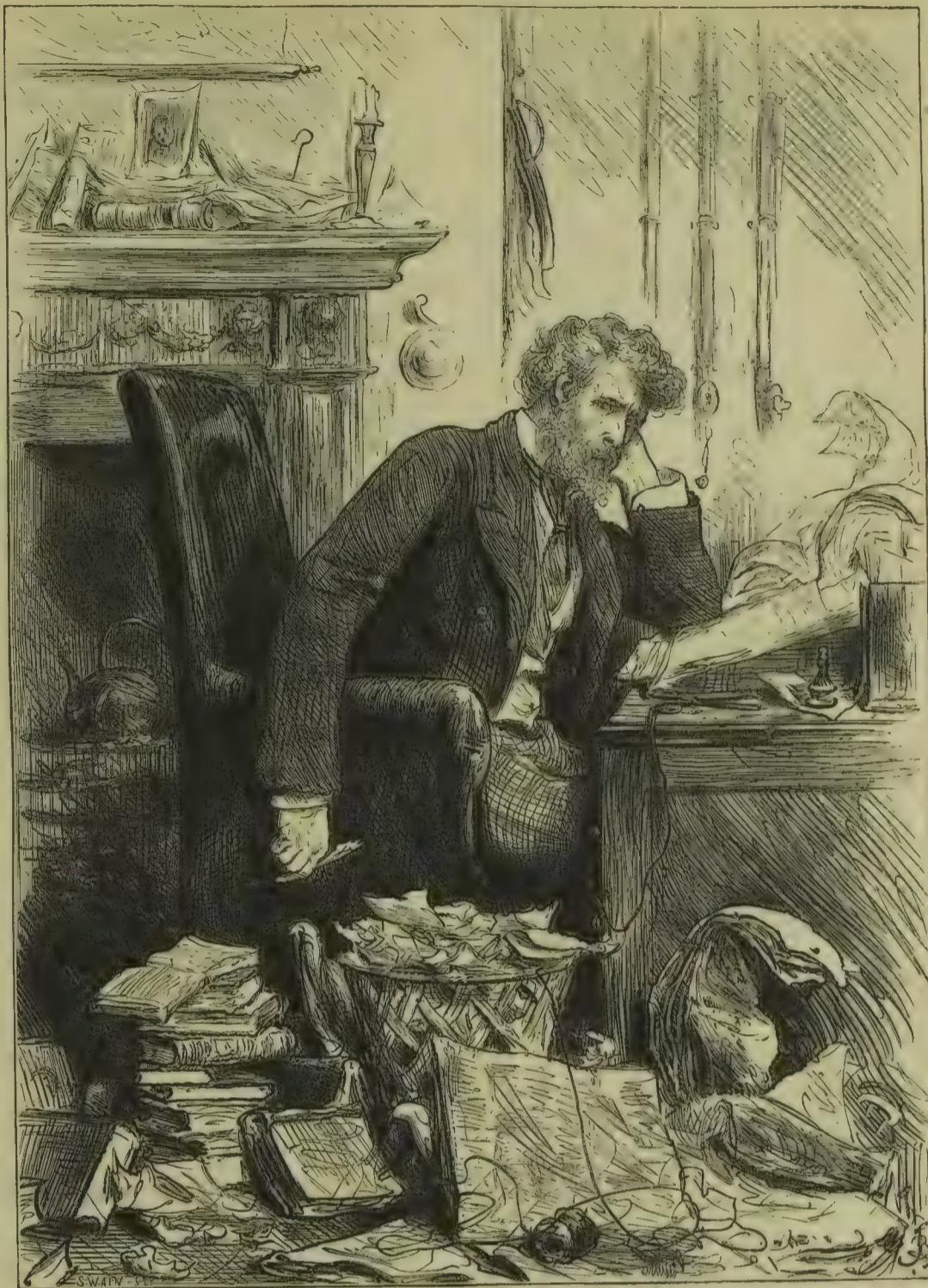
BY THE AUTHOR OF "THAT ARTFUL VICAR."

No. XI.—THE NEWSPAPER EDITOR.

The transformation of the *London Mercury* from a threepenny into a penny organ was at once a big speculation and a great event. The prophets whom the proprietors consulted predicted that the venture would fail; they said that England had enough of cheap newspapers, and that the subscribers to the threepenny journal—a faithful, square-toed phalanx—would be shocked at getting their newspaper for eight farthings cheaper than they had purchased it before. Nevertheless the proprietors persevered, and spent about £30,000 in advertising, purchase of new type, steam-presses, and so forth. One morning the *Mercury* appeared improved, enlarged, more readable in every way, at the cost of 1d., and it became at once a thorough success.

The old editor, Mr. Baulker, was distressed at this unexpected stroke of fortune, for he had been among those who foretold failure. A heavy, shambling sort of person, full of wise saws and petty prudence, he was one of those men frequently met with who, while advocating progress heartily and, indeed, recklessly in matters that do not concern themselves, dare not risk a sixpence when it may entail a loss to their own purses. He was faithful to his employers and strictly upright in all that concerned the management of his paper. He would not have bartered his conscience for millions, had anyone been tempted to offer him such a price for so colourless a piece of merchandise. He thought the *Mercury* at threepence the glory of British merchandise; and certainly he had contributed to give it a high character for truth by inserting nothing in it which was new, and a reputation for impartiality by keeping out of it all that was likely to offend anybody. So this man was like one who drives a steady-going one-horse gig, and who is suddenly invited to climb on to the box of a flashing new drag, drawn by four mettlesome thoroughbreds. His salary was almost doubled when he ascended to his new seat, but he could not accustom himself to the change. He knew not how to hold his reins, and he could not understand what was the use of the long leashed whip at his side. As soon as his team had started with him he felt inclined to cry "Stop!" and would have put on the break there and then if the owners of the coach had allowed him to do so.

Poor old soul, he had never imagined what a popular newspaper was! He was expected to insert telegrams as they came piping hot from the wires, without waiting to deliberate whether there was any truth in them; he was required to have new theatrical pieces reported on the morning after their performance; and if an interesting trial took place he was told that he must devote six columns to it, even though he must thereby elbow out those magnificent letters from his pet correspondent at Leipsic, who used to give him such interesting and long-winded statistics on the evolution of Rationalism from scientific data in Germany. After driving the new *Mercury* for six weeks, Mr. Baulker felt that he had undertaken more than he could perform, and he wistfully appealed to his employers to relieve him of his duties, remarking, at the same time, that he was a married man with a family. The proprietors thereupon set some Parliamentary influence at work, and obtained for the good old man a



THE NEWSPAPER EDITOR



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comfortable Government sinecure; after which they cast their eyes about them to find a younger, spryer, and experter coachman.

There was at that time in the office of the *Mercury* a young fellow of thirty, with a shock head of hair and a pair of eyes that looked you straight in the face like those of an inquisitor. Brimmer was this gentleman's name, and he had begun life as a compositor, rising thence to the post of proof-correector, and becoming afterwards sub-editor to the *Mercury*. He had enjoyed little education as a boy, but he had taught himself by perusing the manuscripts that passed through his hands; and in his few leisure hours by day he diligently studied the newspaper that he had helped to put in type over-night. A man picks up a good deal of desultory instruction in this way; and when he makes use of it, as Mr. Brimmer did, to grasp the fact that this world of ours is for ever spinning round and requires change, he may come to great destinies. Now, at the moment when Mr. Baulker vacated the editorial chair in the *Mercury* office, the proprietors of the paper were inclined to quarrel as to who should succeed him. One wanted to appoint a professor, a second a sportsman, a third a Baptist deacon; so, as the strife waxed hot between them, one of the disputants put in a plea for compromise, and mentioned the name of Mr. Brimmer: "He's a sharp young fellow," said he, "and has not enough opinions of his own to jostle any of ours."

All unsuspicious of the honour that was awaiting him, Mr. Brimmer was at that minute seated in a frowsy room, littered with torn paper, and was sorting telegrams for the printer. A messenger summoned him, and he entered the presence of the proprietors, not guessing what was wanted of him, but bearing himself with a certain natural dignity of demeanour which came from the confidence he entertained in his own talents. He was steadily dressed, and had a complexion sallied from overwork; in one of his hands he held a bundle of telegrams, in the other a pair of scissors, and there was a red pencil behind his ear.

Without much parley the proprietors made their offer to him—the editorship of the *Mercury*, with £2000 a year; and the thing that surprised them most was to see how coolly the young man greeted their rich proposal. He did not redder or stammer; he simply replied that he should be happy to do his best; and, after a few civil words of thanks, begged their leave to withdraw for the present, as this was the time when work pressed most heavily on his hands. But who can tell what sensations thrilled in the clever young man's breast as he descended the rickety wooden stairs of the office and reflected that without any scheming or favour, but by sheer dint of hard work and punctuality in his engagements, he had won his way to the front rank in his profession? When he reached the unclean den in which he used to ply his labours, he sank into his cane chair near the table and put his hands before his eyes for a moment as if to dream. But this fit of emotion only lasted an instant, and then he went to work again, for the presses below were getting up steam, and the voices of the "devils" were heard crying for more "copy." Mr. Brimmer soon made of the *Mercury* the most remarkable newspaper in England.

It was beautiful to see how quickly he understood his business—how deftly he gathered up the reins at which Mr. Baulker had fumbled, and how briskly he set this fresh coach tooling along the road to catch up the others that had a start of him. It was no longer a slow coach now! The others in front had to accelerate their pace that it might not overtake them; and they failed, for within less than a year—which is but as five minutes in time-races of newspapers—it was abreast of the foremost of them; and, to keep up our metaphor, it added to the number of its passengers at every stage. In other words, the *Mercury*, if it did not attain to what one of its rivals boasted as "the largest circulation in the world," had such a circulation and such a mass of advertisements as soon converted its proprietors into millionaires.

What was Mr. Brimmer's secret for thus winning success? One might define it in many ways, but this formula would always have to be reduced to one word. A Frenchman said that three ingredients were required to make a salad—oil, vinegar, and talent in the mixing; so one may say that Mr. Brimmer's recipe for making a first-class newspaper was simply "intelligence."

But, of course, intelligence required money to back it; and, luckily, the proprietors of the *Mercury* were not chary of their pounds, knowing well that the lively Mr. Brimmer would not hide them in a napkin. His maxim was to get everything of the best, and to pay for it the proper price. He disbursed in telegrams such sums as would have given Mr. Baulker a fit of indigestion. Did a war break out, he dispatched two, four, six correspondents, if need were, to the scene of action, and instructed them to send home telegraphic letters three columns long and full of facts. For comments he did not care: "Give me news," he used to say, "and we at home will furnish opinions about them." By "we" he meant his editorial staff of leader-writers, whom he used to pay at the rate of a guinea per column more than any other penny journal.

This leader-writing department of the *Mercury* was as well managed as the other. No man was admitted into it on a permanent engagement; but writers having mastery of special subjects were at all times invited to join its ranks temporarily, until they had written all they had to say. As to Parliamentary and law reporters, Mr. Brimmer's mandates to them were invariably issued in the words, "Don't be dull," and, indeed, the *Mercury* was not a dull paper. Even when discussing on politics it was apt to throw new lights startlingly crude on old subjects.

Naturally, it was a keenly partisan journal. Mr. Brimmer himself was too shrewd a man to believe that there are deep differences of opinion between the rulers of this earth; but he recognised the forces of party animus, and of that deadly antipathy which a statesman who sports "blue" may inspire in the bosoms of politicians who "wear" red. "Men, not measures," is the real cry of every electorate in no matter what country, and so Mr. Brimmer had his men, and in particular his great man to whom he did homage—with his tongue in his cheek, as it were, but loyally for all that. The readers of the *Mercury* were made to read day after day glowing panegyrics on the virtues, genius, and disinterested patriotism of the statesman who led the party to which Mr. Brimmer affected to belong; and that statesman took these laudations so much *au-sérieux* that in the effusion of his gratitude he offered to make the editor a knight. The proposal was formulated one evening at an official party, and it almost took Mr. Brimmer's breath away. For the first time in his life, he was almost losing his temper, for he really considered it a degradation to be offered a reward for having rendered what he considered to be independent party service. However, he controlled himself enough to return a witty answer:—"I have never worn a helmet Mr. —, and think my silk hat more comfortable. When I discard it I shall take to a wideawake."

And he laughed, looking the Premier straight in the eyes as he spoke, as his usual manner was. The great man stammered an apology.

Mr. Brimmer is no courtier of society. He has never attended a levée, nor accepted an invitation to go and shoot for a fortnight over the estate of a nobleman. He cannot

shoot, nor hunt, nor dance. When he wants a holiday he runs over to Paris for a couple of weeks, or takes a month's touring in Switzerland. But he will not do this often, for he cannot tear himself away from his newspaper without being seized with fidgets lest everything in the office should go wrong. One year, when his doctor had prescribed a little rest as a necessity, Mr. Brimmer was induced before going abroad to confide the editorial reins to a sort of friend of his, who was conductor of a weekly society journal, and who, moreover, contributed leaders occasionally to the *Mercury*. This gentleman, named Jowler, was so prudent a writer that Mr. Brimmer thought he would make a good editor; but, alas! scarcely had he got possession of the *Mercury* than he yielded to the temptation of editing that journal after views of his own instead of following out the instructions which Brimmer had left with him. The old stock paragraphs found their way into the paper; a correspondence on female rights invaded the columns of the second page; and a political question of importance having been suddenly started Mr. Jowler declared that his party—i.e., the *Mercury's* party—was divided on the subject, and, lo! there was a rumour at the clubs that the *Mercury* was going to trim! Mr. Brimmer hurried back at express speed from Geneva, and was dismayed at the confusion which had got into the office during his absence. Two out of the three proprietors were actually taking Mr. Jowler's side in his onslaught upon the party leader, and Mr. Brimmer had to exercise, not only great tact, but something more than common firmness, before he could get all things under his own control again. It took the *Mercury* a full year to recover the prestige and the character for loyal partisanship which it had lost during Mr. Jowler's brief administration, and Mr. Brimmer was heard to record a vow that he would never again surrender his editorship for more than a week at a time.

Another great mishap once befell this model editor. It was when his colleague, the City Editor, so called, who presided over the money article department was exposed for venality. He had been selling himself to joint-stock company promoters and to issuers of foreign loans bearing ten per cent interest. The outcry was great all over England, and the public who did not understand the difference between an Editor and a City Editor laid the blame of the whole shocking affair on the *Mercury* in the concrete. But Mr. Brimmer resolved that no such disgrace should occur again to the journal which he led; and he prevailed upon his employers to let him take the City department under his own hand for the future. The better to conduct it, he set himself to study finance; and the newly appointed City *sub-editor* had soon to reckon with the most vigilant censor, who would let not a line pass that bore the faintest resemblance to a puff. City men sneered at so much puritanism; but honest men thought well of a journal whose praises might be got from favour, perhaps, but not for money.

Thus Mr. Brimmer continues to flourish and work, and he will probably die in harness. Every night, from eleven to the time when the first copies of the *Mercury* are dispatched by the country mails, the editor may be seen at his office superintending the general work. He goes to bed at six on every day of the week except on Saturday, when he treats himself to the luxury of a country outing of twenty-four hours' length, and goes to bed at nine. Mr. Brimmer drinks no wine, does not smoke, seems to have no passions, vices, or weaknesses. He is all absorbed in his paper, and has gradually become a sort of intelligent machine for working it on the safest plans. Doctors, however, say that Mr. Brimmer "overdoes his work," and that he will some day repent it, to which the editor drily answers "that if he had no work he would pine away and die." "My diet, Sir, is newspapers," he said once to an astonished leech who had been bothering him. "I eat paper plain for breakfast, and paper buttered with ink for tea. When I want to soothe my nerves I chew the stump of my red pencil."

THE ELEMENTARY EDUCATION ACT.

A circular has been issued by the Education Department to the various local authorities respecting the new Elementary Education Act, 1880. The special object of the circular is to draw attention to sections 1 to 4. "The object of this Act," it is stated, "is to make by-laws universal, and it provides that unless before Dec. 31 next by-laws have been made for any school district by the local authority thereof, it shall then devolve upon this department to perform the duty thus left unfulfilled. Hitherto by-laws could not be made for a parish, except on the requisition of the ratepayers calling on the School Attendance Committee of the Union to pass by-laws; such requisition is no longer necessary. Henceforth the School Attendance Committee may make by-laws for all the parishes under their jurisdiction; and if it is thought expedient to adopt for several parishes in the Union the same distance in by-law 2 and the same standards for exemption in by-law 5, one form will suffice for all these parishes. The proceedings for making by-laws will in all respects (except as to the necessity of a requisition) continue to be the same as they were before the passing of the Act. Particular attention is directed to section 4, pursuant to which a child, before being legally employed, must reach (or pass in all three subjects of) the standard for partial or total exemption fixed by the by-laws; and if a child is employed who has not reached one of the prescribed standards the employer will be liable to a penalty. The proviso at the end of section 2 will meet the case of children legally employed in districts in which by-laws were not in force at the date of the passing of the Act; while the proviso at the end of section 4 allows employers to continue to employ children who at the same date were attending school in accordance with the provisions of the Factory and Workshops Act, 1878."

The supply of live stock and fresh meat from the United States and Canada, landed at Liverpool last week, showed a decrease when compared with the previous week, the totals being as follows:—1120 cattle, 2417 sheep, 2873 quarters of beef, 155 carcasses of mutton, and 103 dead pigs.

Lord Hartington received yesterday week a deputation from the Patriotic Association, who urged that the city of Candahar and district should be permanently annexed to India. His Lordship, in reply, observed that the views of the Ministry with reference to Afghanistan differed from those of the late Government; but, while refusing to enter into matters of controversy, the Indian Secretary admitted that there were strategic reasons for holding Candahar, while the difficulties of holding it were not so great as they would be with respect to other parts of Afghanistan. But he was not clear that we had any right to annex Candahar, and he was not aware that the people would submit to our rule. It would, moreover, be a very costly step, and would require large garrisons in the city and on the line of communication, which would be more usefully employed in protecting India. The whole subject was not yet absolutely concluded, however, and his Lordship promised that the memorial presented by the deputation should receive the attention of the Government.

THE CHURCH.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.

- Baynes, Robert Hall, to be Vicar of Holy Trinity, Folkestone.
- Blake, G. L.; Chaplain to H.M.S. Inconstant.
- Bolton, C. N.; Vicar of All Saints', Darlaston; Vicar of Cannock.
- Butler, William John, Vicar of Wantage; Canon of Worcester.
- Clark, James R.; Naval Instructor to H.M.S. Inconstant.
- Douglas, T.; Perpetual Curate of Ireleth, Lancashire.
- Gunter, William; Chaplain to H.M.S. Hector.
- Hooper, Richard Hope; Vicar of Great Coxwell, Berks; Surrogate.
- Humphreys, Henry James; Rector of Llangua, Glamorganshire.
- Layng, W. W.; Rural Dean of the Deanery of Hill No. I.
- Levie, Alexander; Vicar of Nun Ormsby, Lincolnshire.
- Lovejoy, William; Vicar of Edenhall-cum-Langwathley, Cumberland.
- Majendie, Arthur, Rector of Bladon-cum-Woodstock, Oxon; Surrogate.
- Morris, George; Curate-in-Charge of St. Andrew's, Faignton.
- Smith, H. R.; Honorary Canon in Carlisle Cathedral.
- Taylor, Charles Johnson; Rector of Topplefield, Halstead.
- Thomas, Henry; Perpetual Curate of Penydarran, Glamorganshire.
- Wilkinson, John H.; Rector of Christon.
- Williams, John; Curate (Sole Charge) of Pentyrch-with-Llantwit Vardre, Glamorganshire.
- Williams, Charles L.; Curate of Aston; Association Secretary of Church Missionary Society for West Yorkshire.
- Williams, William Henry; Rector of Portskewett.—*Guardian*.

Tuesday's *Gazette* contained a notice of the prorogation of the Convocations of Canterbury and York till Nov. 25.

The Chapel Royal, Whitehall, will be closed during the remainder of the month for cleansing.

The Church of St. Giles, Cripplegate, was on Sunday reopened, after being thoroughly restored and improved.

The Archbishop of York is leaving England for a few days. Matters of urgent business can be referred to the Archdeacons.

The Bishop of London has left town for the Continent for a few weeks. He requests that all letters on business may be sent to his secretary, Mr. J. B. Lee, 2, Broad Sanctuary, Westminster.

The Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Rosenthal, on the anniversary of their twenty-fifth wedding-day, Aug. 28, have been presented with a massive silver tea and coffee service by the members of St. Saviour's Church, Forest-hill.

On the 2nd inst. the ancient parish church of St. Andrew's, Cherry Hinton, Cambridge, was reopened by the Bishop of Ely, after a careful and conservative restoration conducted by Mr. Gilbert Scott, costing upwards of £4000.

The Bishop of St. David's has left for the Continent, and does not return until immediately before his Visitation, commencing Oct. 13. The clergy of the diocese are requested to write to their respective Archdeacons (or, on formal business, to the Bishop's secretary) concerning any urgent matters which may arise during his absence.

Services of commemoration and thanksgiving were held in the new parish church of St. Peter and St. Paul, Upton-on-Severn, on the 3rd inst., the anniversary of the day of consecration. The cost of the church, which was very nearly £13,000, has been defrayed within the twelvemonth. Notwithstanding strenuous efforts extending over five years, this result could not have been attained but for the large-hearted aid of Mr. Martin, of Ham Court, and members of his family, the total subscriptions and gifts from whom have amounted to £6100.

The Bishop of Liverpool on Tuesday held his first confirmation service at the Pro-Cathedral, Church-street, when a number of boys from the training-ship *Indefatigable* were confirmed. The Bishop was entertained in the evening at a banquet given in the Townhall, St. Helens, by a number of the leading clergy and laity of the town. The Bishop, in replying to the toast of his health, exhorted the clergy and laity of his diocese to be earnest in the propagation of evangelical principles, but, at the same time, tolerant of the views of those who preferred another form of faith.

A painted window (from the studio of Mr. W. G. Taylor, of Berners-street), in memory of an attached servant, has been given by the Earl of Harewood to the parish church of Harewood, near Leeds, the subject, "The Presentation in the Temple," being carried out with great richness of detail.—A stained-glass window (by Messrs. Heaton, Butler, and Bayne) from the text, "And Jesus called a little child unto Him," has been placed in the village church of Kingsley, Cheshire. It is the gift of Mr. Henry Thompson, jun., of Liverpool, in memory of his deceased children.

The Archbishop of Canterbury resumed his third visitation of the clergy and laity of the diocese of Canterbury yesterday week, when he addressed the clergy of the deaneries of North and South Malling and Shoreham, at the Church of St. Peter and St. Paul, Tonbridge. His Grace observed that he had no doubt that the aspect of Christian society was somewhat troubled. It would be sad if, through our weakness, we should give to those who were banded together to resist or ignore Christianity any encouragement for the advancing foe by being occupied with frivolous disputes amongst ourselves. He pointed out the evils of superstition and infidelity, and especially referred to agnosticism, materialism, and atheism, and, in conclusion, called upon the clergy and laity to resist the inroads of these evils.—In his address to the assembled clergy and churchwardens at Dover on Tuesday he pointed out that, although infidelity might not be expected to flourish greatly in their time, Deism, or Philosophic Theism, was a danger of a more practical and pressing nature. Oriental religions, like Buddhism, were continually brandished in the face of Christians on account of the purity of their precepts. Those religions, however, required to be more deeply studied before modern philosophy could very widely spread the principles of Theism.—After each of his Visitation addresses the Archbishop entertained at luncheon the clergy, churchwardens, and sidesmen who have obeyed his summons. At Tonbridge, in responding to the toast of his health, the most rev. prelate said he could not boast that he never had any difference of opinion with his clergy; but then he remembered the anecdote of Archdeacon Paley. Bishop Barrington once said to him, "Let me introduce you to Mrs. Barrington: we have lived together for fifty years, and we have never had a single word of difference upon any subject whatever." Paley replied, "Mighty dull!" (Laughter.) Nor could he (the Archbishop) repeat the words of a distinguished French prelate, who once remarked, "When I say to my clergy, 'March!' they march, and when I say 'Halt!' they halt." That certainly was not his (the most rev. prelate's) experience, and he did not think that, living as we did in a free country, anyone had a right to say to anyone else "March!" or "Halt!" Everybody was entitled to think for himself, and great results were thus arrived at both in Church and in State. People said we lived in very bad times; but, after all, he would ask in what other times or in what other country would persons who used that language have preferred to have had their lot cast? For himself, he was tolerably well satisfied as things were, and he did not see why we should take a desponding view. He had ever received the greatest possible kindness in many times of trial from the clergy and laity of Canterbury, and he hoped they might enjoy every blessing which the Almighty could bestow upon them.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

BELGIUM.

The International Congress of Commerce and Industry at Brussels was opened on Monday in the great hall of the palace of the Academies. The King was present. M. Lansaert, member of the Chamber and President of the Congress, and M. Sainctelette, Minister of Public Works and Honorary President of the Congress, explained its purpose. The Belgian organisers and members of the Congress are all free-traders. M. Mignot-Delstache, the Secretary-General of the Congress, stated the order in which the different questions before the Congress will be discussed. The King was warmly cheered both on entering and leaving. The Congress is divided into a section of political economy, a scientific section, a section of the industrial arts, and a section of commercial law. The sections meet in the morning, and the general meetings take place in the afternoon. Among the Vice-Presidents of the Congress are Mr. Kennedy, of the Foreign Office, and Mr. John Corbett, M.P.

GERMANY.

The tenth anniversary of the battle of Sedan was celebrated on the 2nd inst. throughout Germany. The churches were open in the morning and the theatres at night; the school children had a holiday, after the teachers had recounted to them the significance of the day; and in other ways the Germans manifested their joy at the recollection of Sept. 2, 1870.

The King of Bavaria, by a special rescript, has communicated to his troops (forming two army corps) the Emperor's late Sedan anniversary address to the German army. The celebration of the festival in Munich was, for some reason or other, reserved till the 5th, the main feature in the commemoration being a gay procession of guilds and societies, such as is spoken of in few other cities of the Empire.

Field Marshal Count von Moltke attended Monday's performance of the Oberammergau Passion Play, the Crown Prince having honoured last week's with his presence.

The fifty-fourth autumn exhibition of the Royal Academy of Arts has been opened at Berlin. The exhibition, which will be closed in two months' time, contains one thousand objects of painting and sculpture. Sir John Gilbert has sent a "Murder of Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester," from "King Henry VI.;" while Messrs. W. C. T. Dobson, Elmore, R. J. Gordon, George Crossland Robinson, and Alma-Tadema are among the exhibitors.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

After witnessing the military manœuvres at Olmütz on the 1st inst., the Emperor went to Cracow, into which place his entry from the railway station partook of the nature of a triumphal procession.

The Emperor has acceded to the request of a deputation from the Diet to transform the old Royal Castle of Wawel into an Imperial residence.

The progress of the Emperor through Galicia became more and more a triumph, for which Cracow gave the signal. All classes of the population shared in it. Up to the last moment of his Majesty's stay in Cracow the enthusiasm would appear never to have once flagged; and so it was on the journey to Przemysl, where his Majesty arrived last Saturday morning. All along the road even the smallest stations were crowded by the country people, who came from all sides to greet their Sovereign. Crowds of them, in their picturesque costume, were on horseback, and were seen galloping along as if they were trying a race with the engine. In the evening his Majesty continued his journey to Kryszowice, in the neighbourhood of which the great manœuvres took place. The last part of the journey, for about three English miles, was by road, all along which the country people were ranged in an uninterrupted line. At the last part of it, and just before the château of Count Stadnicki, where his Majesty has taken up his residence, the people had improvised an illumination with torches, the bearers of which crowded before the château and gave loud and hearty cheers for their beloved Sovereign.

The military manœuvres in Galicia began early on Sunday morning, when the Eastern corps in full force filed and surrounded Lemberg. The Western corps was eighty-five miles distant, at Przemysl, Eradijnnow, and Medica. The operations were begun by the cavalry, both sides advancing with such rapidity that the advanced guards of each army corps came in sight of one another before twelve o'clock. They had, therefore, traversed forty-two miles each in seven hours. Towards evening the Chasseurs arrived and commenced operations. The fighting ceased at sunset. The marches were first-rate feats. The Emperor met the Minister for War, the general staff, and the foreign officers at noon in Sadowa Wisznia, and witnessed the operations. His Majesty returned to head-quarters in the evening, when hundreds of country people knelt bareheaded to him. On Monday morning the infantry columns marched upon each other, when the commanders for the first time were allowed liberty of action, and, in fact, were told that they must act as in real warfare. The foreign officers greatly approved this plan. The Emperor arrived at eight o'clock on the field of operations near Sadowa Wisznia. The manœuvres lasted until Friday.

RUSSIA.

The Emperor arrived at Livadia safely from Simpheropol by land on the evening of the 2nd inst. It is stated that the 400 miles of railway over which the Czar travelled were guarded by about 40,000 men—soldiers, peasants, police, and gendarmes.

The anniversary of the Emperor's coronation was celebrated at St. Petersburg on Tuesday. A Te Deum was sung at the cathedral, and popular games were played in the Champ de Mars.

Lord Dufferin has left St. Petersburg for England. His Excellency was prevented from leaving sooner by the state of Lady Dufferin's health, which is now restored.

A new issue of the Nihilist organ, *Will of the People*, has been published and circulated in St. Petersburg. The print bears the date of Sept. 3.

The annual fair at Nijni-Novgorod was officially closed on Monday.

The *Morning Post* correspondent at Berlin states that China and Russia have arranged the preliminaries of a new treaty for the definitive settlement of the Kuldja Question, and that the formal execution will take place at Pekin, whither the Russian Plenipotentiary, Baron Bützow, proceeds.

GREECE.

The King and Queen of the Hellenes arrived at Libau on Monday, and proceeded in the evening in the steamer Danneborg for Copenhagen, where their Majesties arrived on Tuesday evening.

An ordinance has been issued by the Government postponing the opening of the Chamber of Deputies until Oct. 21, in consequence of the necessity for the King to delay his return to Athens in order to visit the Sovereigns of Germany, Austria, and Italy.

The total strength of the army is said to be now 27,000 men, and a *Daily News* telegram states that the rate of recruiting is increasing rapidly.

TURKEY.

The Porte handed a Note to the Ambassadors on Tuesday evening, in which it informs the Powers that, thanks to the efforts of General Riza Pasha, the Albanians have accepted the cession of Dulcigno to Montenegro. Orders have consequently been sent to the General to make over the town and district to the Montenegrins. As to the other territory in dispute, the *Daily Telegraph* correspondent at Constantinople understands it is proposed that both parties shall retain possession of the positions now actually occupied by them. Meanwhile the allied fleets are assembling at the proposed meeting-place. The British, German, and Italian divisions, fourteen vessels, had arrived at Ragusa on Sunday.

AMERICA.

President Hayes was present at a soldiers' gathering at Canton, Ohio, on the 1st inst., and made a speech, in which he dwelt on the necessity of Government aid and protection for education. The late Civil War, he said, would never have occurred if there had been universal suffrage in the United States based on universal education, upon which Republican institutions depended. He pointed out that the steady and rapid reduction of the public debt and the accumulation of coin since the resumption of specie payments might well serve as an encouragement to take the remaining steps necessary to reach a perfectly sound condition of the currency. In conclusion, the President referred to the immense increase of foreign commerce and to the internal prosperity of the country. Foreign nations understood this, and hence the great influx of immigration. President Hayes passed through Chicago on the 2nd inst., en route for the Pacific coast. Hearty welcome was given to President Hayes in Utah. He was met at Ogden, and accompanied to Salt Lake City by President Taylor and other Mormons, who, however, did not tender him any public hospitality. On his return to Ogden, whither he was accompanied by the Mormon President and other authorities of the Mormon Church, he was met by a deputation of Californian citizens.

The Democratic Ticket has been elected in the State of Arkansas by a majority of 60,000 over the Greenback party. No Republican ticket was nominated. The Democrats of Massachusetts have nominated Mr. Charles P. Thompson for the Governorship of that State. The nomination had been declined by General Butler. The latter made a bitter anti-Republican speech in the Convention.

The Government has received official information from the Southern Ute Agency, Colorado, announcing that seventy-five Ute Indians have signed the ratification of the agreement with the United States authorities. The signatures of all the Utes in that agency are expected shortly.

Twenty-five thousand three hundred emigrants landed at New York during August.

It has been decided by the Treasury Department at Washington that American shipmasters in European waters may follow the new European rules to avoid collisions.

AUSTRALIA.

From the text of the Governor's Speech in the prorogation of Parliament we learn something as to the progress being made in New South Wales. Several important Acts were passed during the Session ending July 13 last. Amongst these are the Act to amend the Land Acts of 1861 and 1875, the aim of which is to afford additional facilities and securities for industrial settlement upon the soil; the Public Instruction Act, for carrying out a system of primary instruction, open alike to all classes and all creeds, and which provides the means for improving the methods of teaching to the highest degree, and places the teacher within reach of the remotest child in the land; the Electoral Act, which reduces the anomalies in the representation to a principle of virtual equality, and enlarges the representative branch of the Legislature. As regards the material progress of the colony, it is stated that during the current year 223 miles of new railway lines will be opened to the public, whilst provision is made for new extensions, which will when completed add more than a thousand miles to the railway system of the colony. The revenue from the working railways is steadily increasing, and at the present time is £50,000 in advance of that for the corresponding period of 1879. Other large public works have been completed or are in course of construction, including the fortification of the harbours of Sydney and Newcastle, lighthouses on various parts of the coast, Government offices and public buildings. It is confidently expected that the International Exhibition of Art and Industrial Skill recently closed will have given a stimulus to enterprise and invention, and amply justify the grants for its inauguration.

Princess Orloff, mother of the Russian Ambassador to the French Republic, died on Thursday evening at Bellefontaine.

Prince Alexander of Bulgaria returned to Sofia on Sunday from Varna, and met with an enthusiastic reception from the inhabitants.

Two explosions occurred last Saturday in the magazine of the fortress of Belgrade, setting fire to the upper storey of the building, which was completely wrecked.

Cattle plague, according to an announcement of the Roumanian Board of Health, is prevalent in five districts of Moldavia, and measures have been adopted for its extinction.

We learn that a Treaty of Peace has been projected between Chili and Peru, whereby the former Power becomes master of all the territory of Bolivia on the Pacific. The cost of the war, 40,000,000 dols., it is stipulated shall be borne by Peru.

A Montreal telegram says that engineers are engaged daily in making surveys for the purpose of determining the site of the projected tunnel under the St. Lawrence, between Hochelaga and Longueuil.

Two ceremonials in honour of distinguished Italians were held on Sunday. At Genoa the first stone of a monument to be erected to Mazzini was laid; and at Pieve di Cadore, the birthplace of Titian, a bronze statue of the painter was unveiled.

The Egyptian *Official Journal* publishes the new harbour dues of Alexandria, which are to come into force from Oct. 1 next. The harbour receipts for last month, amounting to £4000, were for the first time applied to the service of the Preference Debt.

A Portuguese steamer has penetrated further up the Congo than had been done before by a ship from that country, and the captain has had an interview with Mr. H. M. Stanley, who told him that his object was to open a path for future traders.

During the passage of a battalion of troops across a wooden bridge, over the Ebro, near Logrono, the structure gave way, and one captain, three lieutenants, and a large number of men were drowned, notwithstanding the efforts made to save them.

A medal has been granted by the Royal Humane Society to Mr. Augustus Alexander Samuel, of Kingston, Jamaica, who on the night of March 9 last, with great heroism, rescued a young lady from drowning in Kingston Harbour.

Owing to the good harvest in Servia, the Government has been enabled to collect the taxes in full from the agricultural population, and the Finance Minister has already set aside the sum required to meet this year's interest of the National Debt.

The French, who have held a protectorate over the island of Tahiti since the year 1842, concluded on June 29 last an agreement with King Pomare, by which Tahiti and the neighbouring islands under his rule were annexed to France. The King is to retain his titular privileges.

It is announced in the *Gazette* that the Queen has directed letters patent to be passed for the annexation to the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope of the British possessions or territories in the Transkei, known as Tembuland, Emigrant Tambookieland, Bomvanaland, and Galekaland.

The Congress of Jurists was opened at Turin on Tuesday, the attendance of eminent lawyers both from Italy and abroad being very considerable. Signor Mancini, the Minister of Public Instruction, was elected President. Speeches were afterwards delivered by Signor Villa, the Minister of Justice, and by the delegates of France, Greece, Holland, Russia, and Switzerland.

The Guion Line United States mail-steamer Nevada left the Mersey last Saturday, having among her passengers 347 Mormons and elders, who were on their way to Salt Lake City. This is the fourth company of the sect that has left Liverpool during the present year, and another company is to go next month. The party on Saturday was composed of Mormons from England, Scotland, Wales, and about six from Ireland. There were also Italians, Germans, Danes, Swedes, and Norwegians included. The total number of Mormon emigrants from Liverpool this year is 1524.

Details are given in the American papers with respect to the famous Dalrymple farm, twenty-five miles west of Fargo, Dakota, which is the largest cultivated farm on the Western Continent. It contains 36,000 acres of arable land, 24,000 of which are now under wheat, and 12,000 under oats; 125 reaping machines were set to work last month to cut the wheat. Mr. Dalrymple manages his farm on strict business principles, his harvest work being performed on a forty day contract with each workman at 1 dol. 75 cents per day, he boarding them. The harvester all board at large dining-halls prepared expressly for the Dalrymple family. Each reaper is operated by three horses or mules. There are 375 of them on these reapers. When shocked and sufficiently dried, both wheat and oats are threshed from the stubble and without stacking. The estimated yield by harvester and proprietors is about eighteen bushels of wheat per acre and ninety of oats. The wheat product of this one farm amounts to 420,000 bushels—about 900 car-loads, or 45 train-loads of 20 cars. This immense crop will go to the seaboard by way of the lakes, through Canada and the Erie Canal, and is expected to net 60 cents per bushel at the farm.

A despatch from Panama, dated Aug. 10, published in the New York papers, says:—"The eruption of the Fuego, the largest volcano in the Republic, was preceded by earthquakes of much violence, the theatre of whose operations was confined to the country surrounding the volcano, with a radius of some twenty or thirty miles. In Antigua, Amatitlan, Palia, Petapa, and several other places, the shocks were of such violence as to cause serious alarm among the inhabitants, and they abandoned their houses for several hours. With the commencement of the explosion, however, the earthquake period ended, and the people in the streets of the various pueblos were able to witness in tranquillity the splendid appearance of the burning mountain. During the morning of the day succeeding the eruption the pueblos on the Costa Grande, to the northward of the volcano, were shrouded in gloom, and for some time after sunrise people in offices were compelled to employ artificial light in order to carry out their labours. Ashes and dust fell in great quantities at many miles distance, and people who were at too great distance from the volcano to witness the explosion were for some time in doubt as to their origin. Happily, the disturbance has passed with no more serious matter to record than the alarm which it momentarily occasioned."

A correspondent of the *Cape Times* at Zanzibar writes:—"Mr. Thomson has come back after a most successful journey. In fourteen months, and at the cost of £2600, he has examined the country to the north of Lake Nyassa and then to the south of Tanganyika. He has followed the Lukuga from the Lake on its way to the Congo, it takes the north-west course and led him too far off, so that he did not reach the junction. Notwithstanding this, the Lukuga has been seen as a large, swift river flowing off to the Atlantic, but utterly useless for trade, as it is full of rapids. The blocking of the outlet seems to have been caused by an accumulation of vegetation which probably takes place periodically and at long intervals. It is in each case only a question of time as to when the lake bursts through. This time the lake fell eight feet after the occurrence, and an inundation passed down, sweeping villages away in the Congo Valley, near Nyangwe. Mr. Thomson has visited Lake Hikna, a lake about twenty miles long, and which would be a considerable one were not Africa already so filled with greater ones. The best of the expedition is that there has not been a bale of goods lost, a single man deserted, or any one died; not a shot has been fired in defence or attack, and Mr. Thomson agrees with old travellers that African travelling is very interesting, but rather monotonous and devoid of adventure."

A return has been issued giving the numbers of those who passed in each year from 1870 to 1879 for appointments in the medical departments of the East India, the Army, and the Navy services. In the Indian medical service 20 passed the examination, and 11 entered the service in 1870; 67 passed, and 31 entered in 1879. In the Army medical service 53 passed, and 36 entered the service in 1871; and 72 passed, and 71 entered the service in 1879. With regard to the Naval medical service in 1870, 24 passed, and 21 entered the service; and 15 passed and the same number entered the service in 1879.

A circular issued from the War Office states that "cases having occurred of ammunition issued to volunteer corps and rifle associations improperly coming into the possession of merchants and others, officers commanding volunteer corps are informed that they are held strictly responsible for the safe keeping and proper use of all Government ammunition, whether issued gratuitously or supplied on payment for the use of the corps. The sale or exchange of ammunition outside the corps to which it has been issued is not permissible, and it is to be understood that any transaction of such a nature, except under orders from the War Office, is illegal, and will render the parties concerned liable to proceedings at law."

The Newcastle-on-Tyne Free Library will be opened by Mr. Joseph Cowen, M.P., next Monday, the 13th inst., and the foundation-stone of an extensive new building will be laid by Mr. Newton at the same time. There will be a luncheon in the afternoon and a large public meeting in the Townhall in the evening. Among the gentlemen who have intimated their intention to be present are the United States Minister, Mr. J. R. Lowell, the French Ambassador, M. Challeme-Lacour, Mr. Ashton W. Dilke, M.P., Mr. Thomas Burt, M.P., Mr. Joseph Dodds, M.P., and Mr. J. C. Stevenson, M.P. The Chamber of Commerce and other public bodies will embrace the opportunity of the visit of the Ambassadors of France and the United States to present them with addresses.



MUSIC AND RÉFRESHMENTS: THE BAND IN REGENT'S PARK ON SUNDAY EVENINGS.—SEE NEXT PAGE.

The Extra Supplement.

THE RESULT OF A LUUFFING-MATCH.

On more than one occasion during the yacht races of the past season, the coveted prize has been lost to the clippers of the yacht fleet by indulgence in a luffing-match.

A luffing-match is a crucial test of the "weatherly qualities" of a yacht, or, in other words, of the power that a yacht possesses of sailing as nearly as possible against the wind. Scarcely a match is sailed in which two or more yachts do not resort to this competition, very frequently to the detriment of their own chances of winning, and thus it sometimes happens that the actual winner is found among the ranks of those reckoned but little better than cruisers.

To pass to "windward" of a doughty antagonist—in fact, "to take the wind out of his sails"—is the highest ambition of the yacht sailing-masters; and often, when at last their attention is directed to the movements of the remaining competitors in the race, it is only to discover that they have allowed this ambition to put them hopelessly astern of the other vessels.

The mishap delineated by our Artist really occurred some years ago during a match of one of the Thames Yacht Clubs. The two vessels started with every chance in their favour, in company with eight or nine other yachts. The course was from Gravesend to the "Mouse" Light-Ship and back. When they breasted the Nore Light a luffing-match immediately commenced between the two yachts in question, which were leading considerably at the time. What actually happened to them was not observed from the committee steam-boat, but a cry was raised that So-and-So had fouled each other, and there, sure enough, they were; one minus her bowsprit and topmast, the other with her mast injured (sprung), some of the rigging carried away, mainsail ripped up, and other injuries. Each had hoisted the signal of protest. Fortunately the doctor was not required, and there was nothing left for the antagonists to do but to bear up for Sheerness or Gravesend, to repair damages. On consideration, each owner withdrew his protest; and, when dining together in the evening, agreed that luffing-matches were all very well, if not too perseveringly indulged in; but on that particular occasion the prizes had not come their way in consequence of a slight oversight on somebody's part.

The reader who is totally unacquainted with nautical matters will perhaps need to have it explained that, in "luffing," each of the two yachts which have come to grief was trying to intercept the wind from reaching the sails of the other, having the wind on their starboard, or right-hand side. Their proper course, as shown in the Artist's Sketch, would be towards the Mouse Light, indicated in the far distance by the light-ship, with the ball at the mast-head, which is dimly seen beyond the six yachts that are now bearing up towards it. The two yachts shown in the front of the Sketch have, in their mutual attempts to get to windward of each other, run about three miles out of the course to the south, unmindful of what the others were doing; and finally, they have disabled one another by a collision, the effects of which are but too apparent in the torn sails of one and the broken spars of the other. The flags exhibited by them both, attached to their lower shrouds, are the understood signal of a protest against the conduct of the race. To the right hand of the Sketch is seen the Club steamer, coming back to render any assistance that may be required.

SUNDAY EVENING IN REGENT'S PARK.

The summer Sunday evenings in several of the London Parks are wont to afford healthful and pleasant recreation, of a befitting tranquil kind, to many thousands of families, including both the middle and poorer classes of our townsfolk. The music of the band which is engaged to play in the stand erected not far from the south-eastern entrance to the Zoological Society's Gardens, about midway along the Broad Walk, is an unfailing attraction in fine weather. People are drawn within reach of its "concord of sweet sounds," and find themselves presently seated on the chairs placed there for hire, or perhaps on the cool greensward, to listen and to enjoy, while some keep strolling round and round, preferring freedom of movement, and surveying every part of the lively scene before them. The refreshment-stall, which is at no great distance, furnishes many a bottle of lemonade, and many a cup of tea or coffee, with biscuits or sponge-cakes, to relieve the exhaustion felt by those who may have walked a long way from their homes to this Park; especially the women and children. Men who smoke have probably the ready pipe or cigar for needful solace under these circumstances; and, here in the open air, there is nobody who would wish to say them nay. Incidents of this nature, with a general air of ease and contentment among the various groups of kindred and friends bearing each other company upon the agreeable occasion, will be recognised in our Artist's Sketch. He has introduced, by one Hogarthian touch, the ludicrous mishap of a boy, running in fright away from a dog, knocking cups and saucers out of a young gentleman's hands. But this, too, is a pleasantry. Nowhere, that we know of, can you see different classes of our London population quietly mingling in a common entertainment with so little fuss or mutual constraint. It may be "a Continental custom," but not, therefore, objectionable or unworthy of English gravity and propriety of manners.

The new Master Cutler of Sheffield, Mr. W. Chesterman, was sworn in on Thursday, the 2nd inst. In the evening the annual Cutlers' Feast was held in the Cutlers' Hall, the Master Cutler presiding. Amongst the guests were the Duke of Norfolk, the Earl of Wharncliffe, the Right Hon. A. J. Mundella, M.P., and Mr. Stuart Wortley, M.P.

The annual British conference of delegates of the 370 Young Men's Christian Associations in Great Britain and Ireland was held at Manchester on Wednesday and Thursday last week, and included large public meetings each evening. Upwards of one hundred delegates were in attendance. Mr. W. Hind Smith, of London, took the chair at the opening meeting. Mr. Hughman, travelling secretary for Scotland, read a paper on the work of district and travelling secretaries. The idea of appointing such officers for all large districts was discussed, and on the motion of Mr. Thorne, of Leeds, it was resolved to recommend the matter to the consideration of the general conference, along with the proposed oversight, by means of a committee, of the work of the associations in England. Mr. W. H. Newett stated that the international conference of the association will be held in London next year.—The sixteenth conference of the North-Eastern District Union of the Young Men's Christian Associations began at Newcastle-on-Tyne on Monday, Mr. C. S. Wilson presiding. It appeared from the report that there are in connection with the society twenty-five associations, with 1408 members and 1175 associates. The financial report was also satisfactory. The members of the conference were entertained at luncheon by the Sheriff.

RESULTS OF THE HARVEST.

Harvest has been finished over the greater portion of England, and is far towards completion in Scotland and Ireland. Never has the weather been more favourable for the in-gathering of the corps. In the early districts farmers have not been stopped in their work for a single day, and they have, therefore, garnered the produce of their fields quickly, cheaply, and without loss. This alone is a great advantage, as well as a great saving of trouble and anxiety; but what is even more important is the excellent condition in which the corn has been stacked. When wet weather occurs during harvest there is always more or less waste through shedding of grain, occasioned by the corn lying a long time in the fields, and having to be turned or moved to dry it. Still worse, there is a deterioration of quality; and when sprouting supervenes, a great deal of grain is rendered unfit for market, except for grinding for cattle food. This year almost every kernel that has been grown has been secured in such condition as will render it fit for the most valuable purposes. The wheat will make excellent flour, and the barley good malt if it is not too thin or too coarse. Consumers, as well as farmers, are to be congratulated upon so fortunate a completion of the labours of the agricultural year, as they will have a nutritious and digestible loaf, and good beer, too, if the brewers will use plenty of the abundant barley crop instead of inferior substitutes.

The wheat crop is the least prolific of the season, though it is far better than the extremely defective crop of last year. There is a great difference of opinion as to its probable yield amongst those who profess to be judges. It is the custom of some writers on the subject to express very confident opinions as to the number of quarters forthcoming, although they have had but few opportunities of forming a judgment beyond those obtained by noticing the bulk of the crops from the windows of railway carriages. This cursory kind of observation may give a general idea as to the quantity of straw, but it is often very misleading in respect of the yield of grain. The weather, up to the verge of harvest, was extremely unfavourable to the maturing of the ears of wheat, as well as conducive to fungoid disease. It is, therefore, unreasonable to expect a large yield in proportion to straw. Sanguine reporters, however, have ventured to predict a crop over average; and one gentleman, apparently recognised as an authority by the *Times*, has gone so far as to state that we may expect a produce of thirty bushels per acre. Returns collected from hundreds of competent observers in all parts of the country by two of the agricultural papers do not bear out these flattering tales. The writers nearly all complain of mildew and blight, and most of them estimate the wheat crop as less than an average, which for England is about twenty-nine bushels per acre. The fact is that there is an unusual variation in the crops of different soils and districts this year. On gravelly or chalky land the heavy rains of July did comparatively little mischief, and many parts of the country escaped some of the worst of the storms. But mildew has been prevalent nearly all over the country, so that the estimates of those who assess the wheat crop at a little under average will almost certainly turn out to be correct. Nevertheless, as already observed, what is produced will all be marketable, and we may, therefore, expect quite an average supply of millers' wheat. Last year, with a very small yield, the quality and condition were so inferior that there was a difference of several shillings per quarter between the price of the fine foreign wheat that was imported in such great abundance and the bulk of the home supply. The British farmer will not have this disadvantage to contend with in the present season, as his wheat is equal to all but the superfine foreign wheat, and superior to the bulk of the American produce.

Barley is the great crop of the year, and, although the berry is generally rather small, and in many cases discoloured from the crop having been laid by the July storms, the dry and sound condition of the grain will render a large proportion of it suitable for malting. Oats and beans are also good crops, and peas tolerably abundant. Root crops, on the whole, are very promising, the great abundance of the turnip crops more than compensating for the deficiency of mangolds. A large proportion of the rather small first cut of hay was badly injured by rain, but there has been a very heavy second crop of clover, and a good growth of late grass; so that the total hay crop is a fairly good one. Potatoes are unusually abundant in yield; and, although disease appeared in most fields, the dry weather of the last five weeks has greatly checked it.

Everyone must rejoice in the turn of fortune which has come to the cultivators of the soil after such a prolonged series of black years as they have experienced. Thousands of them must have been ruined if we had been cursed with a bad harvest this year. Tenantless farms are already far too common, and it is to be feared that the return of agricultural prosperity is too late to save many who have been holding on in an insolvent condition. Still, landlords are disposed, for their own sakes, as well as out of sympathy with unfortunate tenants, to be indulgent in the matter of rent payments, and whenever there is a chance of going on in the hope of continued good seasons, the present occupiers of farms will probably be helped to retain them. It is true that prices are likely to be low, as the Americans have an enormous surplus of wheat to send us; but British farmers do not live by corn alone, and meat and dairy produce are selling well, and cattle are exceptionally healthy.

There has been much talk lately about the decline of agriculture in this country, and pessimists have ventured to predict that American competition would ruin the home producers of corn and meat. The publication of Messrs. Read and Pell's report on American agriculture, however, has done much to disperse exaggerated fears in this direction. Farmers on the other side of the Atlantic have not yet discovered the secret of getting rich by selling corn at less than the cost of its production, and it has been clearly shown that they cannot afford to send us their wheat at such low prices as ruled in 1878, when, according to the official report of their own Department of Agriculture, they only received an average of forty-two shillings per acre for a good crop. If this were all profit men who farm, as a rule, only 180 acres of land would not grow wealthy very rapidly; and as, according to the best authorities, their expenses in wheat-growing are about £2 per acre, it is certain that they will turn their attention to other branches of production if they are not paid better for growing cereals. With respect to meat, it must be many years before they can do more than keep pace with their own and our own increasing consumption.

In the production of cheese and butter, the farmers of the United Kingdom should be able to compete with the world; and they are doing their best to set their dairies in order—none too soon. Our legislators are now fully awake to the necessity of removing all legal impediments to the advancement of agriculture; and, if landlords will follow suit by relaxing the absurd restrictions upon freedom of cultivation, farming in this country may yet maintain its position as the best in the world.

THE MAGAZINES.

The chief attraction of the *Cornhill* is an unusually absorbing tale by "R. L. S."—"The Pavilion on the Links." It is not remarkable for probability, pathos, or the delineation of character, but appeals to the sentiment of curiosity with a power which we have not seen approached since Julian Hawthorne's story of "Mrs. Gainsborough's Diamonds." The present instalment leaves us in a fever of curiosity; the truth and beauty of the natural descriptions also deserve acknowledgment. Mr. James's "Washington Square" would be a masterpiece of comedy if the situation were not almost too painful. The position of poor Catherine between her disagreeable father and her more disagreeable lover is so nicely balanced betwixt comedy and tragedy that it is hard to say which sentiment should preponderate. Mr. Grant Allen's essay on the growth of sculpture is mainly a development of the proposition that the perfection of the Greek artists was largely owing to the material in which they wrought, a material inaccessible to their Egyptian and Assyrian predecessors. "A Gossip about Madeira" is a very delightful piece of gossip indeed, bringing the picturesque aspects, not only of Madeira but of Tenerife, vividly before us. "The Seamy Side of Letters" is an entertaining essay, full of curious instances of the foibles and misfortunes of literary men, imbedded in a vein of quaint humour.

Macmillan continues Mrs. Oliphant's novel successfully, and starts a new one by Mrs. Macquaid—"The Story of Yves"—with abundant promise. Mr. Schuyler has unearthed a Turkish historian who may be said to have attained literary excellence in spite of himself, having been driven to adopt a straightforward style by sheer lack of time to bring his fiction up to the mark prescribed by Turkish literary etiquette. His subject was the first of Catherine the Second's wars with the Porte. Mr. Quilter's "New Renaissance" is a review of the unexpected direction taken by the Pre-Raphaelite movement since the secession of its original leaders. It is clever but partial, omitting to take account of more than a single aspect of the matter. The ingenious financier who proposes to extract revenue from the *Heralds' College* is, we fear, a trifle too sanguine. Titles which anyone could obtain by payment would lose all their value in losing all their exclusiveness.

A generally inferior number of *Blackwood* shines with one admirable article, a description of a week spent in Athens, excellent as a piece of writing, and full of suggestive hints on ancient art. There is a good review of the recent life of Sir James Outram, evidently the work of someone possessing special knowledge, and a rather tedious discussion of some novels, of which the only one possessing any literary pretensions is the only one treated with severity.

Fraser, so frequently obnoxious to the charge of heaviness, is this month adorned by one of the most graceful and fanciful contributions which have appeared in any magazine for some time back. Mr. Lang's "Prehistoric Apologue" reminds us of Lord Beaconsfield's "Popanilla," except that its purpose is diametrically opposite, the moral being that all progress is due to the innovators who from time to time give the example of surmounting social and traditional conventions. A somewhat similar piece of fancy from the pen of Mr. Julian Hawthorne, entitled "Calladon," is pretty, but too artificial, and the drift is somewhat obscure. Mr. Blackmore's "Mary Anerley" is concluded in a very satisfactory fashion. It would be interesting to know how far the particulars given of Trafalgar are authentic. Miss Betham-Edwards writes a very pleasant account of autumn in the Côte d'Or. Mr. Baden Powell opposes the demand for retaliatory duties as a means of combating French bounties on sugar, and Mr. G. H. Graham contributes a lifelike sketch of a power in the world of journalism, the late witty and genial Alexander Russell, editor of the *Scotsman*.

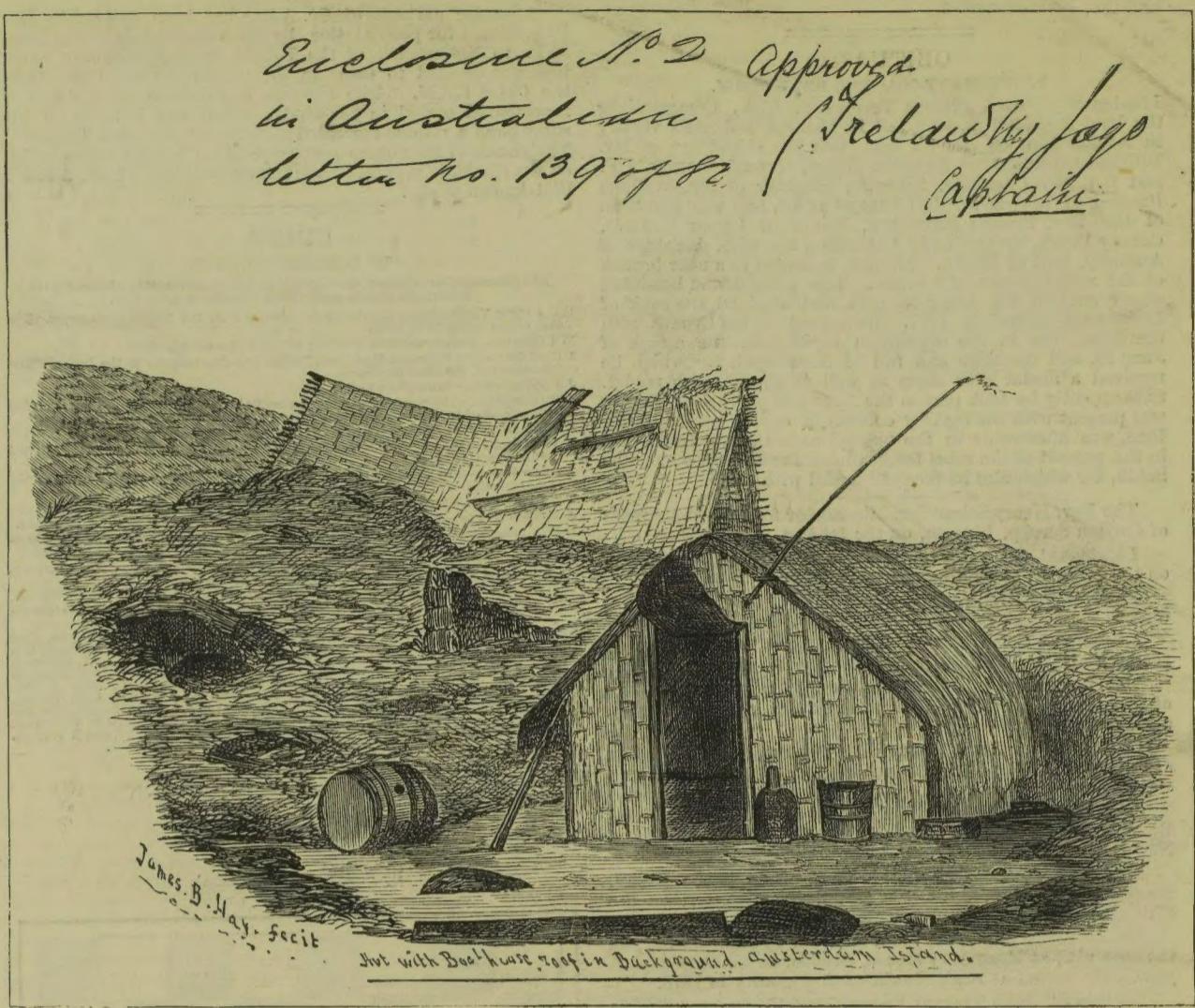
The *Fortnightly* is chiefly remarkable for Mr. Francis Galton's report of his recent investigations of the power of visualising absent objects, possessed in such strangely various degrees; and Mr. Nelson's discouraging statement of the existing judicial administration of the Madras Presidency. Mr. Nelson lays especial stress on the fact that the only class of natives sufficiently civilised to be capable of acting as magistrates are as much strangers in the land as the English, and much less inclined to sympathise with the aboriginal inhabitants. A hitherto unpublished account of the storming of the Bastille, translated by Augustus Craven, will not gratify those by whom the event has recently been celebrated, but bears every internal evidence of truth. Mr. Grant Allen volunteers a defence of Messrs. Darwin, Huxley, and other naturalists against the alleged misrepresentations of critics who, on his own showing, are unworthy of serious notice.

Mr. Froude, writing on Ireland in the *Nineteenth Century*, naturally discerns in the present state of the country a confirmation of his well-known views respecting the history and treatment of earlier aspects of the ever-recurring Irish problem. According to him, the main error of the English people in their dealings with Ireland has not been the assumption of arbitrary power, but the selfish misuse of it for merely English interests. Despotic government he regards as the sole alternative to anarchy in a country like Ireland. The experience of the next few years will do much to confirm or confute his opinions. Lord Carnarvon advocates the tempting but impracticable scheme of "national insurance," and Mr. Sedley Taylor describes the more practical steps towards effecting Lord Carnarvon's object taken by the first French apostle of co-operation, M. Leclaire. Mr. Ruskin's essay, or rather rhapsody, on Byron is marked by exquisite taste in the selection of passages from his author, with even more than his usual eccentricity in the dicta proceeding from himself. Mr. Payne's essay on François Villon is a fine piece of criticism and biography, composed in an eloquent and animated style. Mr. Fitzgerald Hall's protest against wilful archaism and over purism in modern English is not uncalled for; but it may be questioned whether he does not offend against his own principle in some of his strictures upon the Americanisms of the generally fastidious Bryant.

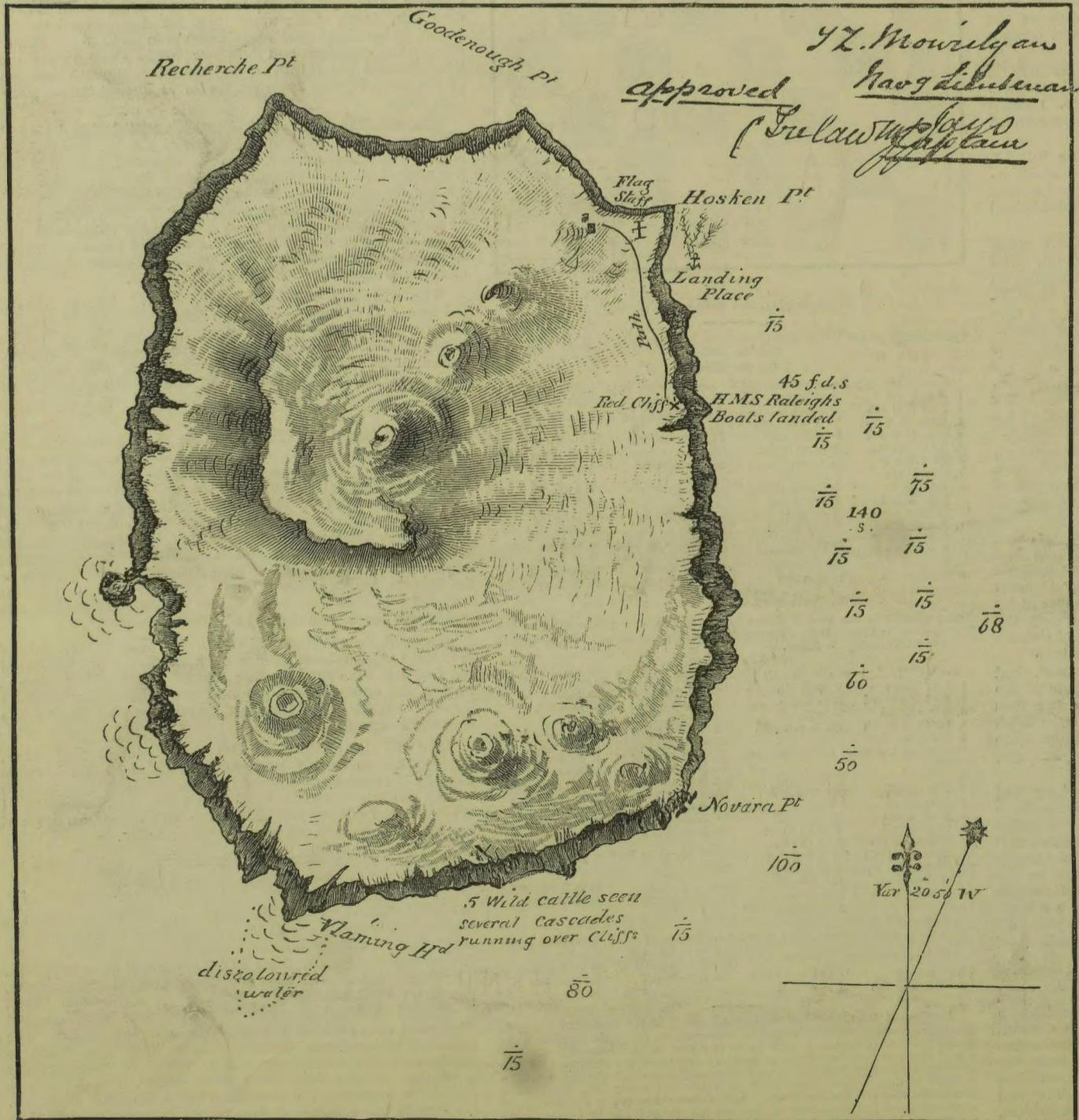
The most remarkable contribution to the *Contemporary Review* is the commencement of a philosophical work by the Duke of Argyll on "The Unity of Nature," a sequel to his "Reign of Law," and promising to be of no less interest. The Chief Justice of Fiji's notes of a vacation tour in the Archipelago are highly picturesque, and his view of the prospects of the colony is highly encouraging. Mr. Anderson is unable to take an equally favourable view of the Canadian Dominion, unless the connection between it and England should be rendered more intimate. There are also an excellent notice of Mr. Main's collection of English sonnets, and a sound piece of criticism on Heine.

The *American Art Review* for July contains some capital etchings and woodcuts, and is full of interest for the art student. The general "get up" of this work is highly commendable, and is one among many proofs of the great advance in art culture in America. We have also received the September number of *St. Nicholas*—Scribner's Illustrated

saw on shore, has been issued Lieutenant Gissing states that they had some difficulty in landing, but when that was accomplished he and Lieutenant Hay proceeded in the direction of the Nuts, keeping at a distance of about 700 yards from the cliffs. "The land here rises gradually from the cliffs to the highest central peak, which is 2760 ft. high. On the side of the hill were several small extinct craters, and higher up larger ones, which we had not time to visit. The walking was very difficult, owing to the rough nature of the ground and the length of the grass, which here grows to the height of several feet. After about a mile of this walking we climbed up one of those small extinct craters, and found on the top of it a cairn of loose scoria stones, which we examined to see if any records were inclosed in or buried beneath it, but, finding nothing, we rebuilt it. During our walk we frequently came across footprints of cattle, but we did not see any. After leaving this cairn we directed our steps towards Hosken Point. On arriving there, we found in the valley, where some protection could be obtained from the wind, a number of tall shrubs from 10 ft. to 15 ft. in height; many of them had been cut down, and the branches bore the marks of an axe. From here we saw the flagstaff which had been seen before landing from the ship. To this we walked and found, about fifty yards to the north of it, a small hut, about seven feet high, eight feet long, and six feet wide, built of stout poles driven into the ground, thatched on the roof and sides with dry grass, having no door, but a piece of matting substituted for it. Outside were a miscellaneous collection of empty casks, a wooden tub, bucket, iron hoops, a large glass jar covered with wickerwork, containing water, some iron staples, ringbolts, feathers of sea-birds, empty egg-shells, also of sea-birds, empty bottles, &c. On examining the inside of the hut we found three bunks with a narrow space in the centre. The bunks were made of a light stick framework, partially closed in with grass matting, bedded with dry grass and matting to about a foot from the ground; but there was no furniture of any kind. A large iron pot, in perfect repair, lay on one of the bunks. Below the hut on the rocks was an old rotten whale-boat. North of this hut, and about twenty yards from it, was a larger one about thirty feet long by fourteen feet across. The walls had been made of loose scoria stones built to about four and a half feet high, on which had rested a roof, well built, and thatched with grass; the ends of the building were made of planking. Owing to some cause, probably wind, the walls had fallen outwards and settled partially on the ground and partially on the remaining stonework, the rafters and crosspieces being much broken by the fall. On crawling inside to examine



HUTS ON THE ISLAND OF AMSTERDAM, SOUTH INDIAN OCEAN



PLAN OF THE ISLAND OF AMSTERDAM.

the interior we found it contained a boat, bottom up, in very good repair, covered with pitch, evidently to preserve it against the return of its owners; also the oars belonging to it, a quantity of dried fish, some wooden cases, partially filled with dried fish, some casks, iron hoops, and a miscellaneous collection of small gear belonging to a fishing-boat. On coming outside the boat-house, we found carved on the rock, in Roman capital letters—'1880. Enault, Etienne, A l'âge 22.' On some rocks between the boat and the old whaler, were the following, also in Roman capitals:—'Louis Dugaw. L. Edward. 1880. Ducain Julien. A.N. 1880. Mulot.' The position of the hut is about fifty yards from the shore, which here slopes down conveniently to the water, the rocks forming a natural pier over which the surf was breaking heavily. On this natural pier, which extended out about thirty yards, were two iron davits let into the rock, and evidently used in fine weather for hoisting up a boat, also some iron crutches evidently for supporting a planked gangway. About fifty yards above the hut was a wooden cross, near which was a small cave or natural well of dripping water. About fifty yards inland of the flagstaff was the following inscription, cut on a slab of rock:—'Daniel Low, departed this life June 13th AE, AD, 1803.' This inscription was also in Roman capitals. From all appearances we came to the conclusion that there were no signs of any shipwrecked people having been there, but, on the other hand, there was every indication of recent habitation by fishermen, who, it would appear both from the inscriptions on the rocks and the fact of so good a boat being left behind, and so much useful gear belonging to their trade, make periodical visits during the fishing season. During our search we could find nothing of the bottle recording the visit of the late Commodore James Goodenough, R.N., C.B., C.M.G., on Aug. 30, 1873, in her Majesty's ship Pearl. The hut mentioned by him we believe to be the one we term the boat-house. It contains no furniture now—neither boxes nor partitions, as mentioned by him. The cabbage garden we found about twenty yards inland of the hut, but quite overgrown with thick grass. A few cabbages still remain, having grown into small bushes with stems several inches thick. Before leaving we deposited in a conspicuous place a bottle containing a statement of our visit to the island by order of the Admiralty, adding thereto in pencil that the hut and boat-house had been visited by Lieutenants Gissing and Hay, of her Majesty's ship Raleigh, and we had not found the statement of the visit of her Majesty's ship Pearl, in 1873, nor the box containing seeds or books."



THE RESULT OF A LUFWING MATCH.